

TABERNACLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TOWER CHIMES



May 2020

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:00a Services will be streamed online until further notice. Please do not visit our location in person.

EVENT SCHEDULE

All non-essential meetings and events have been canceled until further notice.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Tabernacle Presbyterian Church
418 East 34th Street
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(317) 923.5458
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www.tabpres.org

Please note that the Tab church offices are closed. If you have a pastoral care concern, leave a message at (317) 923-5458, and we will respond.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Month of March 2020

Income:

YTD budgeted income:	\$ 649,075
YTD actual income:	\$ <u>676,282</u>
Actual exceeds budgeted by:	\$ 27,207

Expenses:

YTD budgeted expenses:	\$670,350
YTD actual expenses:	\$ <u>653,016</u>
Expenses under budget by:	\$ 17,334

We thank you for your commitment to God's work here at Tab!

Preaching Schedule

May 3, 2020

"Slow to See: The Road to Emmaus"
Post Resurrection Appearances
Luke 24:13-35
Pastor L. John Gable, preaching

May 10, 2020

"Lived Out Love: The Sea of Tiberius"
Post Resurrection Appearances
John 21:1-25
Pastor L. John Gable, preaching

May 17, 2020

The Acts of the Apostles
Intro and Ascension
Acts 1:1-11
Rev. Oscar Clavel, preaching

May 24, 2020

The Acts of the Apostles
Choosing Leadership
Acts 1:12-26
Rev. L. John Gable, preaching

May 31, 2020

The Acts of the Apostles
The Day of Pentecost and First Sermon
Acts 2
Rev. L. John Gable, preaching

Pastoral Reflection

Dear Friends,

I will confess that I like to be “in control” of my life and my surroundings. While I don’t really like the sound of “I am a control freak,” I will admit to having some of those tendencies. I don’t really like to be surprised; I tweak the placement of the chairs in a room before I teach a class even though the way they were set up is just fine; I like to have structure and organization in my life (although my office is often a mess, I promise you I know where in my piles every important piece of paper lies). I could go on, but I think you get the point.

I also think you get the point that everything about my “liking to be in control of my life” has now been challenged and changed in the past several months due to a virus I can’t even see and seemingly have no control over. I suspect you feel much the same. In light of all of this I have recently been thinking about Psalm 121:

Psalm 121:1-8 (NRSV)

¹ *I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come?*

² *My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.*

³ *He will not let your foot be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.*

⁴ *He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.*

⁵ *The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.*

⁶ *The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.*

⁷ *The LORD will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life.*

⁸ *The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.*

The Psalmist opens by saying, “*I lift up my eyes to the hills.*” Why, because in the hills, on the acropolis of any ancient city, was the temple to the gods of that land and culture. “To the hills” is where people would go to seek the blessing of their gods. But the Psalmist challenges that notion by asking a question, “*From where will my help come?*” as if to say, “It’s not coming from the hills.” The Psalmist is asking a question, not making a statement. He knows that his help is not coming from temples or gods made with human hands, and so he invites us to ask the question, to whom or what am I looking to find a sense of comfort, security, control? What are the “gods” I am looking to for help right now?

Under “normal” circumstances many of us would say: family and friends (in isolation), my church family (in isolation); my job (tenuous and a cause of anxiety for many), my bank account/savings/401k (the market is on a roller coaster), medicine and science (our best guides at this point, but they, too, are scrambling for answers/solutions/vaccines), my regular routines and disciplines (there are times now when I can’t even remember what day it is!).

All of our “traditional” sources of comfort, those things that give us a sense of being “in control” have been taken from us...save ONE!

The Psalm is challenging every “god of our own making” and directs our attention to the one true God, the God of Israel, the Maker of heaven and earth, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Re-read Psalm 121 and listen to the statement of faith which the Psalmist gives us: “MY HELP COMES FROM THE LORD!”

Of course, there are still really good and essential things that we must be doing to take back some sense of “control” in the midst of this pandemic: physical distancing, washing hands, not touching our faces, and we need to keep doing these. But even in doing these, we need to be reminded that WE ARE NOT IN CONTROL (we never really have been), but WE KNOW WHO IS!

In this time may we learn to lean ever more heavily and trust ever more deeply the One Who loves us and holds us, the One Who keeps us and will never let us go.

“See” you in worship this Sunday!

Rev. L. John Gable

Room With A View

Story by Terri Thorn, Missions Director

During this time of social-distancing and stay-at-home mandates, this month's *Room With A View* has moved from the best office in the building to the most awesome parking lot in the neighborhood. It was from there, on Good Friday morning, that I noticed the eerie quiet of the neighborhood. More specifically, I became aware of the lack of activity from across the street at what is typically the bustling School 48 - no cars in the parking lot, no buses coming and going, no announcements over the loudspeaker, no sounds of children to be heard.

The sound of this silence reminded me that all across this nation, children are not physically in school buildings - anywhere, at any grade-level. Cognitively, I knew that schools had been closed for weeks; yet, as an empty-nester, the implication didn't register with me until I "heard" the silence that day.

Many thoughts ran through my mind.

I wondered what it must be like for the younger children trying to understand the drastic changes to their daily routines, as well as for the older ones who were not able to be with their friends or participate in their school activities.

I lamented for the seniors (and parents) missing rituals and traditions, as well for the many graduate students for whom the cancellation of exams has delayed board certification necessary to move forward in their chosen professions.

I shuddered at the thought of the additional stress put on underpaid, overworked, teachers who suddenly found themselves scrambling to convert curriculum to online and preparing home-schooling packets for those without computers or internet options.

My heart broke over the additional burden parents must feel as they try to hide their own grief and anxiety while juggling the responsibilities of homeschooling, working, paying bills, and providing for the family's well-being - including the overwhelming road-block of finding affordable, safe, childcare.

I was also struck by the relative ease with which Rob and I could have made the transition if necessary, compared to the struggle, hardship, and in some cases, endangerment, that this situation has forced upon many of our neighbors.

To be quite honest, I was a bit overwhelmed by my own thoughts. Yet, I have the sense that I am not alone. Many of our hearts are troubled with similar concerns about the long-term consequences (physical, emotional, mental and intellectual) that this major life-disruption will have on the children of our neighborhood - especially for those whose families are struggling most. It is yet to be seen just how broad and wide and deep the lasting impact of the pandemic, the social-distancing, or even the closing of schools, will be for our community. We do not know what needs will emerge or how Tab will respond.

We do, however, know that with God's help, we most assuredly will respond in the right way. Our long history of caring for and loving the children and families of our neighborhood is proof that we will. Our commitment to supporting the education of all children in a safe, loving, encouraging environment like Tab Tutoring - without regard to race, income or zip code - is proof that we will. Our faithful financial support of numerous learning programs, both locally and globally, is proof that we will. Our obedience to Christ's command to love one another as Christ has loved us is proof that we will. Whatever the post-pandemic future holds for the children and families of our neighborhood, Tab will be there to help comfort, love, encourage, and heal.

***The Mission Prayer Focus for May will be our education-related community ministries. Please watch the weekly emails for opportunities to pray with us.*

Announcements & Events

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

The Tab Church family extends our sympathies to Don McMurtry in the passing of his brother, Max McMurtry, on April 3; to Judi Trabue and her family in the passing of her mother, Grace Mulligan, on April 5; to Charlott Belisle and her daughter Kassidy in the passing of both Charlott's father, Dexter Belisle Sr., on April 11, and her uncle, Walter Belisle Sr., on April 12; to Mary Ellen May and Janie Parr and their family in the passing of their son and brother, Tom; to the family of Sandra Galinger, who passed away on April 16; to Sharon and Jeff Poole and their family in the passing of Sharon's mother, Ruby G. Carter, on April 18; to David and Gwen Horth and Tracey and Jere Krueger in the passing of their father, Doug Horth, on April 21. Service arrangements are being planned for a time when family and friends can gather together; and the family of Bob Pardue, who passed away on April 24. Please keep Debby and their family: Sarah and Ryan Brennan, Stephanie and Ray Link; and Bob and Sarah Pardue in your thoughts and prayers. Arrangements for services are pending. Please keep these families in your prayers.

WELCOME LITTLE ONES

- Griffin Wayne Barnett was born on April 20. He is the son of Kyle and Brittany Barnett and joins siblings Liam, Morgan and Cara.
- Andrew Joseph Boits was born on April 13. He is the son of Rich and Emily Boits and joins big brothers Jake and Luke.
- August Graham Berry born on March 28. He is the son of Stephen and Mary Berry and the grandson of Gene and Carolee Berry.
- Morgan Nicole Graner was born on March 24. She is the daughter of Kelly and Brian Graner and joins his big brother Colin.
- Alexander James Summers was born on March 24. He is the son of Chuck and Emily Summers, the little brother of Tommy Summers, and the grandson of Thomas and Jennifer Wirt.

Congratulations and God's blessings on these families!

2020 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

The Tab Recreation Bud Harris College Scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior each year that meets the following requirements:

- The applicant must have participated in at least (2) Tab Recreation programs for (2) seasons each or more.
- The applicant must be a graduating high school senior.
- The applicant must be accepted for admission to an accredited college or university.
- The applicant must return the completed application and required references by May 30.

The winner of this scholarship will receive \$1,500 per year for four years while a full-time student in good standing at an accredited college or university. Applications are available by emailing Ben Hughes at ben.hughes@tabrecreation.org or can be printed from our website at www.tabrecreation.org.

MID-NORTH FOOD PANTRY

As one of the founding churches of the Mid-North Food Pantry, Tab has a special relationship with the pantry and its neighbors. Thank you for your continued support. Due to the pandemic, the Mid-North Food Pantry has made some changes. The pantry is serving more families with fewer volunteers while following social distancing guidelines, wearing masks and gloves, and using hand sanitizer regularly. We no longer allow neighbors to come into the pantry to shop; instead, volunteers and staff deliver bags of food outside. Finally, pantry hours have changed. The Mid-North Food Pantry's new public hours will be 10:00 a.m. to noon on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please keep the pantry workers

and neighbors in your prayers as we continue to serve the changing needs of our neighborhood. Thanks again for playing your part in this vital ministry.

ONLINE GIVING

If you would like to submit an online gift to Tab, please visit www.tabpres.org/giving.

EXPLANATION OF BENEVOLENCE/COMMUNITY CARE FUNDS

Did you know that Tab has two distinct funds set up to support individuals and families during hard times? Tab's Deacon Benevolence and Community Care Funds allow us as a church family to come alongside people with significant needs inside and outside the church. Please reach out to the church if you or someone you know is in need. **Tab's Deacon Benevolence Fund** provides confidential financial assistance to members and regular attendees who are faced with either an emergency short-term financial need or a persistent long-term financial need. No repayment is required. Trust that all requests are confidential – only a very small sub-committee reviews each request. Members and regular attendees may submit an [application](#) directly to Kristine Green, Tab's Director of Finance: kristine.green@tabpres.org. **Tab's Community Care Fund** provides emergency financial assistance to our neighbors living in the 46205 zip code. No repayment is required. Neighbors receive assistance by calling the Community Care phone line at 317-805-1281 to set up an appointment with Terri Thorn, Tab's Missions Director. Terri then provides the individual with prayer, guidance, direct assistance, and/or referrals to more appropriate services or organizations. The Tab family can also give to the Benevolence or Community Care Funds to help individuals and families, especially those experiencing financial hardship due to the current crisis, by visiting your online "Giving" profile at onrealm.org and selecting the appropriate "Fund" to support or by sending a check to the church office and identifying your fund of choice in the "Memo" line.

SESSION CREATES COVID-19 QUICK-RESPONSE FUND

In order to help our ministry partners and others meet the needs of people affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, on Tuesday evening, Tab's Session voted to create a \$50,000 COVID-19 Quick Response Fund. The fund will be used to provide support to Tab-connected mission organizations and others that are facing difficulties in maintaining their ministries during the pandemic or that need support to meet urgent community needs. In order to facilitate quick responses, decisions about the use of the funds will be made by a small team consisting of Missions Director Terri Thorn and Mission Committee Elders Doressa Kupke and John Thomas. On Wednesday, the team made its first funding decisions:

- \$13,000 will go to our Colombia partners, Mark Wittig and his Christian Union Sports Club. Due to the pandemic, Mark had to shut down the brownie manufacturing operation that supports the salaries of more than 50 employees.
- \$1,500 will go to the Unleavened Bread Café to cover a month's basic expenses for the café, which has had to close due to the pandemic.
- \$5,000 will go to Wheeler Ministries, to help them provide housing and other support to the city's homeless population.
- \$5,000 will go to the Martin Luther King Community Center, which is providing emergency food and other supports to people in the neighborhoods around Tab.
- \$5,000 will go to the Shepherd Community Center, which is providing emergency food and other supports to area residents.

Money for the Quick Response Fund is being drawn from Tab's discretionary funds. Should the team members identify needs beyond the initial \$50,000, they are invited to return to Session to ask for additional funds.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

May

- 2 Doug & Ellen Moeller (40 years)
- 3 Joel & Meagan Niese (17 years)
- 5 Mark & Debbie Midkiff (41 years)
- 10 Eric & Cheryl Herzog (33 years)
- 11 Mick & Paula Daum (18 years)
- 12 Dennis & Brookings Johnson (30 years)
Nick & Sarah Schroeder (2 years)
- 14 Robert & Carol Lukemeyer (21 years)
- 16 Brian & Kelly Graner (5 years)
Dave & Cathleen Perry (39 years)
- 18 Philo & Allison Lange (15 years)
- 19 Ryan & Sarah Noel (19 years)
- 20 Mitch & Cheri Daniels (42 years)
- 22 Adam & Caryn Packer (16 years)
- 25 Tom & Jennifer Wirt (35 years)
Wayne Weber & Carolyn Dodd (25 years)
- 26 Jay & Anne Steger (36 years)
Jim & Robin Pfeiffer (47 years)
- 28 Phil & Caitlin Teague (9 years)
- 29 Andy & Linda Costlow (38 years)
- 31 Roderic & Judi Trabue (45 years)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

May

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Bart Ost | 12 Ann McKenzie | 22 Jennifer Russell |
| Christy Whaley | Molly Booker | 23 Jere Krueger |
| Robert Brown | David Burris | Weber Donaldson |
| Eric Kropp | 13 Cindy Verbarg | Madeline Prible |
| 3 Daniel Rexroth | Jeff Sumpter | Rachel Birk |
| Betsy Thompson | 14 Abigail Warren | 24 Nancy Fike |
| Leo Reel | Betsy Morse | 25 Billy Reel |
| Christine Gall | Colin Graner | Kathy Ladavac |
| Mark Midkiff | Karen Scamihorn | 26 Valerie Finnell |
| Bill Heeter | 16 Jeff Crane | Mary Birk |
| 4 Sherry Beasley | Kristine Crouch | Ethan Fedor |
| Nicki McGowan | 17 John Gable | 27 Ryan Fowler |
| 5 Connor Whaley | Scott Waddell | 28 Jack Booker |
| 6 Penelope Costlow | Carl Evans | Barb Sullivan |
| 7 David Brunsting | 18 Carol Hartman | 29 Marilyn Kendrick |
| Janet Belden | 19 Paul Kauffman | Jacqueline Wimsatt |
| 8 Mark Wilkerson | Nathanael Smith | Holly Rice |
| Sondra Heeter | Donna Bonifield | 30 Eric Shaw |
| 9 Tom Huston | Hazel Moudy | 31 Ruth Anne Wright |
| Doug Horth | Mary Mills | Dan Hamilton |
| Mary Phillips | 20 Hudson Fowler | |
| 10 Jane McClelland | Suzie Booker | |
| 11 Vicki Townsend | Cheri Daniels | |
| Stephanie Lynn | Peter Marshall | |