



Welcome

May you truly sense God's Spirit at work in this place and in your life.

Greetings to everyone! We extend a warm welcome to those joining us in-person or for our livestream worship service this morning. As we celebrate together, we hope you will sense God's presence as we gather.

If you are a guest this morning, please fill out one of the Connection Cards located in the pew racks so that we can get to know each other better. Simply hand your completed card to an usher or place it in the offering box. If you need assistance at any time, please feel free to ask someone seated next to you or one of the ushers.

Children are welcome to sit with their families during worship or attend Junior Church in Lower Level B following the Children's Message. Nurseries are available for infants along with programming for preschoolers.

Discipleship Classes

2025 Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Pastor's Bible Study | WEDNESDAY 9:30a PARLOR

Pastor Tim Ayers will lead us through the scriptures of Advent for the next several weeks. Plan on joining us for this insightful look at the time leading up to the birth of Christ.

Men's Bible Study | SATURDAY 8a PARLOR

Dive into Scripture in a small group setting, connect in fellowship, and encourage one another through prayer and discussion. Men's Bible Study is a time for growth, accountability, and building strong relationships. Bring your Bible and come ready to grow in faith!

As We Forgive Those | SUNDAY 9a PARLOR

Join Dr. Shannon Woller for a six-week, scripture-rooted exploration of forgiveness—God's forgiveness toward us and our call to forgive ourselves and others. Grounded in biblical teaching and shaped by insights from Timothy Keller and Maria Mayo, this class will reflect on mercy, justice, and the challenges and beauty of forgiveness. Questions? Contact: Bart Ost at bart.ost@tabpres.org

Courage to Question | SUNDAY 9a THE NOOK

Faith can be beautiful—and bewildering. Many of us, at one time or another, find ourselves wrestling with questions that don't seem to have easy answers: doubts about what we believe, concerns about how the church responds to a complicated world, or uncertainty about where God is in the midst of pain and confusion.

This four week small group is a safe, confidential space for honest conversation. Guided by Pastor/Chaplain, Jim Pfeiffer, participants will be invited to share openly about their experiences of doubt, frustration, even lack of connection with a personal God. Please pre-register. Contact: Jim at jrpfeiff@gmail.com or Bart Ost bart.ost@tabpres.org

OUR MISSION

Tabernacle Presbyterian Church is called by God, led by faith in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit to demonstrate the Kingdom of God through worship, discipleship and outreach. Honoring our heritage at 34th and Central, we will faithfully serve our community, city and world in the present and prepare expectantly for the future.

Cover Art:

Epiphany

by John August Swanson

8 o'clock Worship

We hope you will sense our vision for Greater Faith, Deeper Relationships, and Stronger Community as you worship with us.

† Please stand in body or spirit.

PRELUDE

“Partita on ‘How Brightly Shines the Morning Star’” *Jan Bender*

As The Prelude begins, we invite you to use this time to quiet your heart, reflect on God’s presence in your life, and remember Christ’s promise of redemption. Thanks be to God on this Lord’s Day.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

† GREETING ONE ANOTHER

“As with Gladness Men of Old” *Dix*

*As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.*

Gathering In God's Name

† CALL TO WORSHIP | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

Leader: People of God, arise, shine, for your light has come!

People: The light of Christ has come into the world.

Leader: Immanuel.

People: God with us.

Leader: So arise, shine, for your light has come!

People: And we will follow the light—when it shines brightly in the night sky, when it glows dimly on the horizon.

Leader: We will follow the light—when it leads down familiar paths to expected destinations.

People: When the road is unfamiliar and the star rests above a dubious-looking home.

Leader: We will lift up our eyes and look around,

People: And when we see the Christ child, may our hearts be overwhelmed with joy.

Leader: When we are in the presence of Immanuel, may our knees bend in worship.

People: When our journey brings us, finally, to the heart of God,

Leader: May our hands open in generous sharing;

People: May our mouths open in generous praise.

All: Let us worship the God who has come among us in the Child of Bethlehem!

† HYMN #150

“As with Gladness Men of Old” *Dix*

CALL TO CONFESSION | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most holy and loving God, we admit to you and to each other, that we are creatures who either through foolishness or wilfulness often choose darkness instead of light.

Here and now we surrender to you our fears and proud opinions, our short-sighted folly and our pompous wisdom, our deep seated sins and our apathy towards change and renewal.

Please forgive the darkness and pain we have inflicted on others, and restore the light-starved hopes and ideals within our own souls. Trusting your grace, we earnestly pray: "Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us."

This we pray in the saving name of Christ Jesus our Savior.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER & CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: My friends, Epiphany is good news!
The Light comes not to sear and blind us but to save us. Christ Jesus came into this world to save sinners. In his name I declare to you:
Your sins are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: Receive with grateful hearts your forgiveness with thanksgiving, and live without shame or anxiety.

People: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ enables us.

All: *Thanks be to God! Amen!*

† HYMN #581

"Gloria Patri" *Greatorex*

*Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
World without end.
Amen. Amen.*

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *The Apostles' Creed* | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
The holy catholic church;
The communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.

Proclaiming God's Word

SCRIPTURE READINGS | Rev. Eric Gale

Psalms 133:1–3 | Pew Bible Page 501

Hebrews 10:24–25 | Pew Bible Page 976

Leader: The word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

MESSAGE | Rev. Eric Gale

52 Family Reunions

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION AND PRAYER

Responding to God's Word

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION | Rev. Eric Gale & Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

“Let Us Break Bread Together” *Let Us Break Bread*

Please join in singing during the serving of the Sacrament of Communion.

*Let us break bread together on our knees;
Let us break bread together on our knees.*

Refrain:

*When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.*

*Let us drink wine together on our knees;
Let us drink wine together on our knees.*

Refrain

*Let us praise God together on our knees;
Let us praise God together on our knees.*

Refrain

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,

Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.

Departing to Serve

† HYMN #112

“On Christmas Night All Christians Sing” *Sussex Carol*

† BENEDICTION | Rev. Eric Gale

† POSTLUDE

“Partita on ‘How Brightly Shines the Morning Star’” *Jan Bender*

Please join us in McKee Hallway immediately following worship for
Coffee & Conversation.

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Eric Gale, Guest Pastor

Rev. Dr. Steven Smith, Interim Associate Pastor

Matt Kauffman, Organist

10 o'clock Worship

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The holy catholic church;

The communion of saints;

The forgiveness of sins;

The resurrection of the body,

And the life everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE | Angi Parks

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SUNG RESPONSE

Responding to God's Word

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION | Rev. Eric Gale & Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS | Jeff Crane

OFFERTORY

“In The Bleak Midwinter” *Gustav Holst*

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan;
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.*

*Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.*

*What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.*

+ HYMN #606 | *Doxology*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

+ PRAYER OF DEDICATION | Jeff Crane

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory forever. Amen.

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**Please join us in the Parlor immediately following worship for
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Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Eric Gale, Guest Pastor

Rev. Dr. Steven Smith, Interim Associate Pastor

Elder Jeff Crane, Liturgist

Angi Parks, Deacon

Matt Kauffman, Minister of Music, Organist

Cora Winstead, Soloist

Guest Pastor, Eric Gale

Pastor Eric Gale is recently retired as the pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Noblesville for over 32 years. Prior to Noblesville he was an Associate Pastor for five years at the former Wallace Street Presbyterian Church on Indy's east side. Eric grew up at the Southport Presbyterian Church and has been highly influenced by Pastor Henry Date, who served Tab as an Interim Pastor nearly 30 years ago. Eric and his wife, Karen Perkins Gale, have been married for 41 years, and were classmates at Southport High School (1977). They have two married children, Aaron (Allison), Elizabeth (AJ), and have three young grandchildren in Zionsville and Carmel.

Welcome to Tab, Eric!

*Submissions for the weekly bulletin can be emailed to
communications@tabpres.org by noon on Wednesday
to appear in the upcoming Sunday's bulletin.*

Announcements

Week of January 4 – January 10, 2026

WELCOME RECEPTION FOR CLARK COWDEN

Congregational Life is hosting a Welcome Reception for our new Interim Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden, on his first Sunday at Tab, January 11! This special time of greeting our new Interim Pastor will be held at 8:45a in McKee Hallway for those who attend the 8a service and in the Dining Room immediately following the 10a worship service. Join us as we celebrate his arrival to Tab!

COMMUNICATIONS SUBMISSIONS

With so much happening at Tab, we want to make it easy to keep everyone informed! If you have an announcement to publicize, please email well-curated information, including the "What, Who, When, and Where" to communications@tabpres.org.

UPDATE FROM THE PNC

Greetings from the Pastoral Nominating Committee. So far, we have met several times working on the process required for next steps and were encouraged by special guests from Presbytery, former pastors in the PCUSA and even Clark, our new Interim Pastor, to share their wisdom. He wanted to help out before even starting with us. Progress is being made, and we ask for your help with thoughtful prayers for discernment. Also, because biblically based preaching is so important, we invite you to read with us about clarifying our preaching evaluation criteria. Two books we are studying over the holidays are "Preaching & Preachers" by D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones and "Preaching" by Timothy Keller.

Since networking is undefeated, we would also love for you to plant seeds with ordained friends and organizations. Who might they know that could grow with an opportunity like Tab? (Even if they may not be looking!) Conversations are already happening across the country, and we welcome your help and connections.

Message us about people you would like us to contact. The PNC email is tabpnc2026@gmail.com

YOU'RE INVITED:

Fill your cup

A TAB'S WOMEN'S
MINISTRY GATHERING

SAT, JAN. 10TH / 2:30-4:30PM
@ Tabernacle Presbyterian Church

The Women's Ministry Team invites you to a time of fellowship, tea, light refreshments, and encouragement as we explore what it means to come to Jesus—our living water—each and every day.

Rev. Gracie Payne, Associate Pastor at Second Presbyterian, will share an uplifting message on finding daily strength in Christ and allowing Him to continuously "fill your cup," no matter the season you're in.

RSVP TO:

WOMENoftab@TABPRES.ORG

WOMEN'S MINISTRY GATHERING:

FILL YOUR CUP: COMING TO THE WELL DAILY

Take a break from the busyness of life and join us for a special afternoon in the Dining Room on Saturday, January 10, 2:30p–4:30p designed to refresh your heart and spirit. The Women's Ministry Team invites you to a warm and welcoming time of fellowship, tea, light refreshments and encouragement as we explore what it means to come to Jesus—our Living Water—each and every day. Kindly RSVP to womenoftab@tabpres.org by January 5.

Have you seen the new Spiritual Growth catalog?

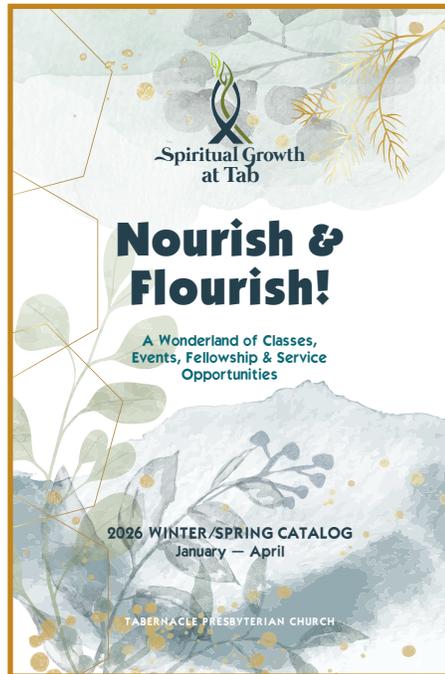
CHECK IT OUT!

The Spiritual Growth Team welcomes the new year, with A Wonderland of Classes, Events, Fellowship & Service Opportunities, as titled in its newly issued Winter/Spring Catalog. Spanning twenty-six pages, the catalog offers a rich variety of opportunities, including new classes on Forgiveness, God's desire for an Abundant and Flourishing Life, Honest Conversations in Spiritual Exploration, and the Book of Philemon.

The catalog also highlights special events, such as a fun Tab family adventure at Newfields' 100 Acres: Art & Nature Park, and a Sunday devoted to hearing from our new Executive Director of Tab's Recreation Ministry, Reggie Martin.

This is an exciting season in our shared pursuit of spiritual growth, as we deepen our faith while also welcoming our new Transitional Head Pastor, Clark Cowden. The new catalog is available in the Front Office area and an electronic version will be available soon.

There truly is something for everyone in the new year. It is good to be in fellowship and learning at Tab!



Calendar

January 4 – 10, 2025

Sunday, January 4

- 8a Communion Service
McKee Chapel
- 8a Coffee & Conversation
McKee Hallway
- 9a Spiritual Growth Class *Parlor*
- 9a Children's Education
Lower Level B
- 10a Worship Service *Sanctuary*
- 10a Junior Church *Lower Level B*
- 11a Coffee & Conversation *Parlor*
- 11a IMPACT Youth Group *Youth Room*

Monday, January 5

- 11a Open Door Café *Dining Room*
- 7p Women's Bible Study *Parlor*
- 7p Cub Scout Pack 72 *Dining Room*

Tuesday, January 6

- 8a Women's Tuesday Walkers
Offsite
- 9:15a Women Alive Yoga *Gym*
- 10a Women Alive Study *Parlor*
- 5:30p Spiritual Growth Meeting
Session Room
- 6:30p Bible Study Fellowship
Dining Room & Gallery
- 6:30p Media & Communications
Meeting *Parlor*
- 6:30p Prayer Meeting
McWhirter Resource Center

Wednesday, January 7

- 9:30a Pastor's Bible Study *Parlor*
- 11a Open Door Café *Parking Lot*

Thursday, January 8

- 2:30p Tab Tutoring *Lower Levels, Dining Room & Gallery*
- 6p Circles *Lower Levels, Dining Room & Gallery*
- 6p Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Sanctuary
- 7p Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Parlor

Friday, January 9

- 11a Open Door Café *Dining Room*
- 3:30p Circle of Hope *Parlor*

Saturday, January 10

- 8a Men's Bible Study *Parlor*
- 10a Daughters of Dorcas
Session Room
- 2:30p Fill Your Cup Women's Ministry
Dining Room



THANK YOU FOR GIVING

Your generous support enables Tab to spread the love and joy of Christ to thousands each year. Whether through worship, music, community outreach, pastoral care, ministry programs and events, your faithful commitment and contributions truly make a difference.

Ways to Give:

- Scan the QR code
- Text **TABPRES** to 73256