



Tabernacle Presbyterian Church  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

January 11, 2026 | Baptism Of The Lord

# 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.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:jrpfeiff@gmail.com) or Bart Ost [bart.ost@tabpres.org](mailto: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:

*Who is in Your Circle?*

by Susan Mencini

# 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.

**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.

## PRELUDE

"He Whom Shepherds Once Came Praising" *arr. Helmut Walcha*

*He whom sages, westward faring, myrrh and gold and incense bearing,  
Humbly worshiped, offerings sharing; Judah's lion reigns this morn!  
God's majesty has come to earth and sent his only Son to you in humankind;  
A chosen virgin gave him birth in David's town the holy infant you will find,  
Lying helpless in a manger, poor and bare and lowly,  
To set you free from all your sorrow wholly.*

## 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 | *Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7* | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord;

**People: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

Leader: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

**People: Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down,

**People: Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

Leader: For he is our God

**People: And we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

**All: Come, let us worship God!**

### † HYMN #396

"Brethren, We Have Met to Worship" *Holy Manna*

## CALL TO CONFESSION | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we come to you in prayer asking forgiveness for all that we have not done that we should have done and all that we have done that we should not have done.

Forgive us our willingness to live in a rut, to be satisfied with how things have always been. Forgive us our inability to act on your behalf when we see injustice and harm in the world around us. You created us to bring your peace and loving grace to this world in need and at times we have failed.

You who give breath and spirit to all of creation, you who claim us as your children through baptism, give us courage to throw open the windows to newness and bring your loving spirit and message of salvation to a hurting world. Pour out your spirit upon us. In the name of the Christ we pray.

## MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER & CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the good news: In the name of the triune God I declare that, as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

People: Thanks be to God: Our sins are forgiven.

## † HYMN #581

"Gloria Patri" *Greator Rex*

*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.*

## † ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

# Proclaiming God's Word

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

2 Corinthians 5:16–20 | Pew Bible Page 940

### MESSAGE | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

Journey With Jesus

### PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

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.

# Responding to God's Word

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden & 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*

# Departing to Serve

## † HYMN #361

"O Christ, the Great Foundation" *Aurelia*

## † BENEDICTION | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

## † POSTLUDE

"Ding Dong! Merrily on High" *arr. Folgert Zwaving*

**Please join us in McKee Hallway immediately following worship for  
a Welcome Reception for Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden.**

## Today's Worship Participants

*Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden, Interim Senior Pastor*

*Rev. Dr. Steven Smith, Interim Associate Pastor*

*Matt Kauffman, Minister of Music*

# 10 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

“Jesus Is His Name” *Pavel Polanco-Safadit*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

## † GREETING ONE ANOTHER

“As with Gladness Men of Old” *Dix*

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As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led to thee.*

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## † CALL TO WORSHIP | Psalm 95:1–2, 6–7 | Bruce McDonald

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord;

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Leader: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

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Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down,

People: Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

Leader: For he is our God

People: And we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

All: *Come, let us worship God!*

## † OPENING SONG

“Believe For It” *CeCe Winans*

## CALL TO CONFESSION | Bruce McDonald

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we come to you in prayer asking forgiveness for all that we have not done that we should have done and all that we have done that we should not have done.

Forgive us our willingness to live in a rut, to be satisfied with how things have always been. Forgive us our inability to act on your behalf when we see injustice and harm in the world around us. You created us to bring your peace and loving grace to this world in need and at times we have failed.

You who give breath and spirit to all of creation, you who claim us as your children through baptism, give us courage to throw open the windows to newness and bring your loving spirit and message of salvation to a hurting world. Pour out your spirit upon us. In the name of the Christ we pray.

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## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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People: Thanks be to God: Our sins are forgiven.

## ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

## RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS | Rev. Dr. Steven Smith

“The Prayer” *David Foster and Carole Bayer Sager*

# Proclaiming God's Word

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## MESSAGE | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

Journey With Jesus

# Responding to God's Word

## PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

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

## + CLOSING SONG

“The Blessing” *Kari Jobe*

## + BENEDICTION | Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden

## + POSTLUDE

“This Little Light of Mine” *Pavel Polanco-Safadit*

Please join us in the Dining Room immediately following worship for  
a Welcome Reception for Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden.

## Today's Worship Participants

*Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden, Interim Senior Pastor*  
*Rev. Dr. Steven Smith, Interim Associate Pastor*  
*Bruce McDonald, Liturgist (Clerk of Session)*  
*Leah Crane and Staci McCrackin, Vocals*  
*Rob Dixon, Saxophone*  
*Steve Dokken, Bass*  
*Carrington Clinton, Percussion*  
*Pavel Polanco-Safadit, Piano*

### Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden's Sermon Series

This Sunday, our new Interim Senior Pastor, Clark Cowden, will begin a four-week sermon series called "The Mission of God." The famous Swiss theologian, Emil Brunner, once wrote, "The Church exists by mission, just as a fire exists by burning." In the 1980s hit movie *The Blues Brothers*, Jake and Elwood Blues, state that they are on a mission from God. While this was meant to be humorous in the movie, it is what we are all about as Christ's Church. We are on a mission for God. In this four-week series, we are going to be looking at some different aspects of the mission of God in the Bible, how we can join what Christ is already doing in our world and how we can participate in where the Holy Spirit is at work. We hope you'll join us!

Here are the upcoming messages:

**Jan 11 – Journey with Jesus – 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

**Jan 18 – Hinge Moments – Matthew 4:18-22**

**Jan 25– Love the City – Jeremiah 29:4-14**

**Feb 1 – You Are the Spice of Life – Matthew 5:13-16**



# Welcome Reception for Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden!

TODAY! | McKee Hallway @ 8:45a & Tab Dining Room @ 11a

TABERNACLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# NEW MEMBERS CLASS

JANUARY 25 | 11:30A

EMAIL FRONTDESK@TABPRES.ORG TO SIGN UP

JOIN OUR CHURCH!

◆◆◆ Join Us for

## Q&A *with Clark* ◆◆◆



February | 01 | 11:15 am

McKee Chapel

### What You'll Experience

Interim Head Pastor, Clark Cowden will host a get-to-know-you session about all things Tab. This is a great opportunity to ask questions, share thoughts, and connect more deeply as we move forward together in faith. Coffee will be served!

# Announcements

Week of January 11 – January 17, 2026

## WELCOME, LITTLE ONE!

The roses on the communion table are in celebration of two babies born to Tab members. Join us in celebrating the birth of Henley Francella Ahearn born on December 23, 2025 to Scott and Sarah Ahearn in Buderim, Queensland, Australia. Henley is welcomed into the family by proud grandfather, Kevin Ahearn and great-aunt and uncle Mark and Beth Ahearn.

Congratulations to the family of Landon Miles Murrell born December 30, to parents Brad and Kirsty Murrell. Proud grandparents, John & Karen Murrell, are excited to welcome another baby to their family. Everyone is doing great! Please keep the Murrells in your prayers as they welcome the newest member of their family!

## FLOWERS

This morning's chancel flowers are in celebration of Tab's newly installed and ordained officers for 2026 as well as those returning for another year of service. Thanks to each of them for their dedication and willingness to serve.

## MISSIONS UNIT WEEKLY UPDATE

This week, Tab's elementary students will be visiting Belgium, where we will learn about the adventures of TinTin, how to speak several words and phrases in both Flemish and French, see how lace is still made by hand in Belgium, play "Fox and Geese" at the Table Game center, make (and eat!) Belgian Waffles at the International Challenge, plant tulip bulbs (which originally came to Europe via Belgium, not the Netherlands), make Smurf pencil toppers (the Smurfs were originally Belgian), play "Baton Maudit" and "Tap the Line" in the Gym, and taste Charbonnes Flamandes (a traditional Belgian stew) and Belgian chocolates at the Food Center. Fun fact about Belgium: Belgium produces more than 220,000 tons of chocolate per year, and more chocolate is sold at Brussels' International Airport than in any other location in the world. Bonus fun fact: The Body Mass Index (BMI) was devised in Belgium (probably to discourage Belgians from eating all of the chocolate they produce!).

## PRETEEN LUNCH AND A MOVIE

Tab 5th and 6th-graders are invited to our annual "Preteen Lunch and a Movie" outing on Monday, January 19 (MLK Day). We will have lunch somewhere fun up on the northeast side and then see a movie (we'll keep you posted as to what is showing). We will take Tab's van to and from lunch and the movie. Please provide an RSVP to Mrs. Wirt by January 16.



## UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE UNIVERSITY CHOIR IS COMING SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026 at 2p

Mark your calendars for an afternoon of outstanding choral music featuring the UE University Choir on Sunday, January 18, at 2p in the Tab Sanctuary. This outstanding group of students will be stopping by Tab on their way back to U of E following a performance at the Indiana Music Educators Association Conference. The concert is free and open to the public. Bring yourself and bring a friend for a wonderful afternoon of choral music.

## A GREAT TIME TO JOIN

Have you ever thought about singing in the Sanctuary Choir or trying your hand in the Tab Handbell Choir? Now's a great time to give it a shot! Rehearsals for the newest season of preparation and participating in leading worship have begun. Both rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings – Handbells at 6p in the Sanctuary and Sanctuary Choir at 7:00p in the Parlor. Think about it, pray and about it and come join with us in singing and ringing your praise!

## 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](mailto:communications@tabpres.org).

## CALENDAR ITEMS

With the beginning of a new year, there are committee meetings and special events that need to be scheduled for our building use. If you have a calendar request for any meeting or event, please email [frontdesk@tabpres.org](mailto:frontdesk@tabpres.org) to request a date and space for your event. This is an important step in making sure that our custodial staff knows who will be in the building and what set-ups might be necessary. Thanks so much for your help in making our facility run efficiently.

# Have you seen the new Spiritual Growth catalog?

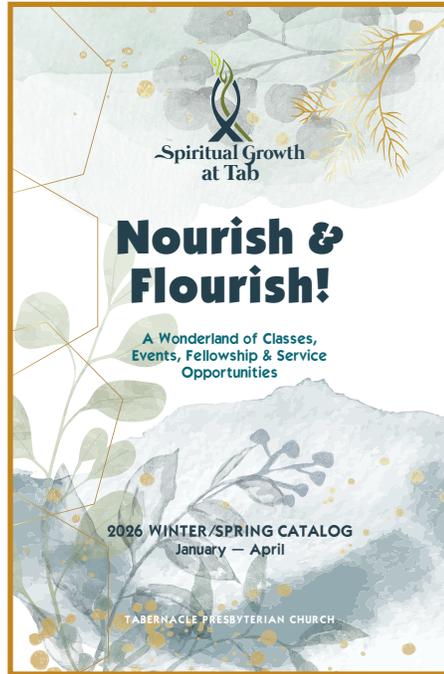
**CHECK IT OUT!**

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

Week of January 11 – 17, 2026

### Sunday, January 11

- 8a Communion Service *McKee Chapel*
- 8a Coffee & Conversation *McKee Hallway*
- 9a Spiritual Growth Class *Parlor*
- 9a Children's Missions Unit *Lower Level A & B*
- 10a Worship Service *Sanctuary*
- 11a Welcome Reception for Rev. Dr. Clark Cowden *Dining Rm*
- 11a IMPACT Youth Group *Youth Room*
- 11:15a Spiritual Growth Class *The Nook*

### Monday, January 12

- 11a Open Door Café *Dining Room*
- 5:30p Facilities Committee *Session Rm*
- 6:30p Boy Scout Troop Mtg *Youth Rm*
- 7p Cub Scout Pack 72 *Dining Room*

### Tuesday, January 13

- 8a Women's Tuesday Walkers *Offsite*
- 9:15a Women Alive Yoga *Gym*
- 10a Women Alive Study *Parlor*
- 5p Budget & Finance Meeting *Session Room*
- 6:30p Bible Study Fellowship *Dining Room & Gallery*
- 6:30p Prayer Meeting *McWhirter Resource Center*
- 7p Children's Committee Meeting *Lower Level B*
- 7:15p Worship Committee Meeting *Parlor*

### Wednesday, January 14

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

### Thursday, January 15

- 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 16

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

### Saturday, January 17

- 8a Men's Bible Study *Parlor*
- 9a New Officer Training *Parlor*
- 10a PraiseStage Board Meeting *McWhirter Resource Center*



### 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

