January 7

8:30 AM & 10:00 AM Church Services will resume

Pastor Joe

"Full"

Let’s begin the new year with a prayer from the Bible. This is one of my favorite prayers in the world and it comes from Paul’s letter to the Ephesians. I shared this with many of you before, but I want to offer it again as my heartfelt prayer for our church.

“This is why I kneel before the Father. Every ethnic group in heaven or on earth is recognized by him. I ask that he will strengthen you in your inner selves from the riches of his glory through the Spirit. I ask that Christ will live in your hearts through faith. As a result of having strong
roots in love, I ask that you’ll have the power to grasp love’s width and length, height and depth, together with all believers. I ask that you’ll know the love of Christ that is beyond knowledge so that you will be filled entirely with the fullness of God. Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us; glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.”

Ephesians 3:14-21

The part that I am treasuring in my own heart right now is after the words, “so that...,” because anything we say after those two words is always important. May Paul’s prayer for the people in Ephesus be the prayer we offer each other in the new year, “I ask that you’ll know the love of Christ that is beyond knowledge SO THAT you will be filled entirely with the fullness of God.” What a beautiful image.

May you be filled entirely with the fullness
of God. Imagine our congregation full of God’s goodness. What a great vision for the year 2024. Please join me in praying this prayer over everyone in our church as we expect the Holy Spirit to fill us until we are full to the point of overflowing with God’s grace.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Joe

Save the Date!

Our next meal packing event with Rise Against Hunger will be on February 11, 2024! The Advent Offering will go towards the goal of packing 10,000 meals!

~ Please contact Heidi Hutter by email: missions@thaliaumc.org

UMFS Birthdays

There are four birthdays in January for children in the Foster care program with United Methodist Family Services If you would like to provide a gift and cake or cupcakes to one
of these children.

Please contact Cathy Graham at discipleship@thaliaumc.org

TUMC F4O FAMILY

GOD says: "A single mom who is working two jobs and still finds time to take her kid to soccer practice, that’s a miracle. A teenage who says no to drugs and yes to an education, that’s a miracle. People want me to do everything for them and what they don’t realize is that they have the power. You want to see a miracle son, be the miracle."

The F4O - Zoe Empowers Program is a miracle. It was created by an orphaned youth from Rwanda named Epiphanie Mujawimana and friends who wanted to break the dependence cycle of foreign aid to Africans. They came up with an 8-point program that, in three years, leads those enrolled to total independence, success and happiness.

The F4O - Zoe Empower Program is the most successful anti-poverty program I have ever come across. It is a miracle.

The Foundation 4 Orphans is now a small but growing partner with Zoe Empowers and, by the end of 2025, we will hit 250,000 individuals who have finished the program or are enrolled in it then. That’s a quarter of a million lives changed.

By 2030, it is possible that there could be a million orphaned and vulnerable youth whose lives have been impacted by this program. In the coming decades, it will change the face of Africa and other nations around the planet as it spreads and grows.

Your support allows us to continue this program. Be the miracle.
January Class News:

Christian Home/Good News
*Meets in the small hall, next to the kitchen*

In January, our class will finish the Advent book chapter 4, An Unlikely Event. We will then begin our study of James, a Shepherd’s Notes Study. James is considered one of the most practical books of the Bible. All are welcome!

The Faith Builders
*Meets in Room B5, Day School hallway*

We will be studying the book, Secrets of a Prayer Warrior by Derek Prince. Please come visit our class.

Searchers Class
*Meets in the room located in the back corner of the large hall*

In January, the Searchers will finish two studies. We have greatly enjoyed the book An Unexpected Advent. First, we will complete the Advent book and then we will discuss the final chapter of the book Genesis, which has been a rich study of the matriarchs and patriarchs of our faith. We love visitors and new members and all are welcome.

Seekers
*Meets in Room B8, Day School hallway*

The Seekers Class begins 2024 with a study entitled Empowering Discernment. We will see a recurring theme: God orchestrating events from behind the scenes as the magi, Joseph, son of Jacob and Rachel, Solomon, and Daniel and his friends consider the various ways wisdom and discernment come to us. We pray that new faces will join us. All ages are welcomed.
Women’s Bible Study
Meet Tuesdays 7-9PM or Wednesdays 9:30-11:30AM
Our January/February study will be What Love Is by Kelly Minter. We have studied under her before! It is a 7-week course and is based on the letters of 1, 2, & 3 John. Our first session will be January 9/10. Come out and study, a time of renewal and fellowship. If you are interested, please let Lois know, text/call 757.651.6600 or email lois.grubb@gmail.com.

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2024 Offering Envelopes
The 2024 Offering Envelopes are in and you can pick up your assigned envelopes from the baskets in the hall outside the sanctuary. If you do not need your envelopes because you give online or electronically, place your envelopes in the white box next to baskets. If you would like envelopes, please contact Jazming in the admin office.

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Financial Positions

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Our GEN FUNDS first time in the positive all year: $14,901

INC YTD $460,541
EXP YTD $488,281
<($27,740) *

*Updates will be available in the next upcoming Tuesday Tidbits*

~Thank you, thank you, thank you!~

Your generous support is making a huge difference. It looks like we are going to start catching up on apportionments to the Virginia Conference and the Coastal Virginia District. While Year to Date expenses were technically over income, the overage was due to anticipated capital improvements projects like the flooring and painting which was paid for with savings and dedicated funds that were donated in prior years.

We paid apportionments in November for the first time since May bringing us up to 50% for the year. Our goal is to reach at least 75% of our 2023 apportionments by the end of the year. We can exceed our goals if we keep up the good momentum. Our church is changing lives in Jesus' name thanks to generous donations of your time, talents, and treasures.

~Thalia UMC Leadership Team~
Birthdays

Grace Holdren
Lauren Starr
Candice Quiambao
Vaida Grubb
Mark Mckinney
Timothy Traylor
Inez Jones
Lauren Martin
Terri Spence
Drew Cleek
William Fink III
Jordan Falls
Guy Foster
Betsy Kincaid
Haley Matthess
Robert Shelburne
Ellen Lunsford
Melvin Klausmeyer

Lauren Slayton
Rachel Slayton
Jami Foster
Carolyn Mattox
Robert Alitzer
Patricia Bowles
Norma Mcnelly
Carolyn Powell
Cameron Reckling
Catherine Reckling
Robert Slayton
Joshua Starr
Jennifer Redden
Mary Jane Sufficool
Paige Elizabeth Winstead
Kimberly Dixon
Ginger Boyer
Anniversaries
Ritchie and Barbara Rosso
Ray and Phyliss Baxter

Prayers
Joan Averett Family
Amber Batten
Debbie (neice of Lois Grubb)
Holly Gifford
Morgan Gifford
Faulkenberry Family
Joyce Gaus Family