August 2025

Tabernacle Methodist

Monthly Newsletter

"Awake, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will give you light." (Ephesians 5:14b)



Do you snooze your alarm? I used to hate waking up. I could snooze my alarm for hours. I literally placed my alarm clock in another room so that I would have to climb out of bed to shut it off, and I still repeatedly hit "snooze" for hours. But as I age, I find I love the morning hours. I want to wake up and spend quiet, precious moments appreciating life (and a good cup of coffee) while reading God's word. I want to rise and hear God speak. The alarm that used to aggravate and irritate now welcomes and invigorates.

Alarms are purposefully loud and obnoxious. Abrupt, shrill noises catch our attention, elevate our heart rate, release a burst of adrenaline and cortisol, and move us to action. A fire alarm intentionally overwhelms us. If it could be easily ignored, people might die. Alarms wrestle us from slumber. Even the old "canary in a mine-shaft" is meant to challenge our comfort and move us from one place to another.

The Apostle Paul sounds the alarm and blares out "Awake, O sleeper!" In the back half of his letter to the Ephesians, Paul educates and exhorts his readers to live as children of the Light of Christ. Specifically, prior to ringing the alarm, he challenges us to carefully determine what pleases the Lord. Then, immediately afterward, Paul reiterates, "So be careful how you live." With this alarm, he is urging those of us who desire to live in the light of Christ to pay attention and evaluate how we are living for the Lord. He rouses us from the slumber of a lackadaisical faith and moves us forward in our walk with Christ.

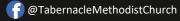
As we prepare to move from our warm summer break back into the hustle and bustle of the fall and winter, it's time for us to let the alarm ring. It's time to stop hitting the "snooze" of a comfortable, slumbering faith, and allow this call to spark our senses, spur our hearts, and sharpen our determination to carefully live for the Lord. We need to see the alarm as a gift.

With Scripture as our guide, I want to encourage us to carefully consider our walk with Christ in light of our commitment as members of Tabernacle. Each of us pledged our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. The five marks are a simple metric to evaluate how carefully we are living in the light of Christ.

Are alarms going off?

STAFF MEMBERS

Matt Morris - Senior Pastor | Joe Essick - Associate Pastor | Carla Ely - Minister of Music | Zach Jones-Ely - Contemporary Music Director Allie Roth - Kids Ministry Director | Joyce Sosnowski - Financial Administrator | Christina Nelson - Campus Administrator Cindy Odum - Daycare Director | June Sofley - Daycare Assistant Director



What do I pray? Are my prayers primarily about my comfort and ease? Are my prayers weighted toward physical healing? Or are my prayers concerned with the eternal heart condition of others? Do I pray more often for a good doctor's report or that someone will come to saving faith in Christ? Whatever has my heart will have my prayers.

Am I present? Do I show up on Sundays? Am I worshipping together with our church family? Have I committed to a small group, where we grow in faith together? Am I acting as the church Monday–Saturday as well as showing up on Sunday? It's not about the pastor, the preaching, or the music. It's about being together as the church. Am I present for that?

Am I giving? National reports suggest that the average self-professed Christian gives less than 2% of their income. Would a deep dive into the giving records at Tabernacle reveal similar results? Giving should not be tied to our pleasure with the pastor or programs of the church. Giving reflects our commitment to trust in the Lord. Giving is a choice to change my lifestyle, how I spend my money, so that I can be a blessing to others. Do I limit my lifestyle so that I can elevate my impact?

Do I serve? There is an old adage that 20% of the people do 80% of the work. For most churches, this tends to be the truth. The majority come to be served. How are my actions intentionally benefiting others? Do I come to church to get what I want or to give what others need? If we follow Christ, we are called to serve others.

Do I witness? Many are terrified to share their faith. We fear being judged, looked down upon, or viewed as weird. Witnessing should not be off-putting. It is simply sharing about what we have experienced and inviting others to come experience it with us. The underlying problem may be that I've never had a profound experience with Christ that I am compelled to share. Am I open to and pursuing a deeply convicting experience with the God of the Universe? Do I have a faith worth witnessing about?

Are alarm bells ringing? I confess that some of these questions may be challenging, surprising, and uncomfortable. Alarms often are. Every moment is a time for us to carefully consider how we live for Christ. The church is not the programs we run or the buildings we construct. The church is who we are. That's why church isn't for "us." If we are in Christ, we are the church. And we are called to be servants to others. We are for them. Is our church, are we, for them? We must let the Word of God challenge our behaviors, our conceptions of what it means to live by faith, and move forward with a profound and powerful purpose to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

May you and I attune our ears to the ringing alarm of the call of Christ to live in His light. May you and I rouse from the comfort of what we like, and conform our lifestyles to what Christ desires and our neighbors need. May the love of Christ so abound within our heart that it brings joy to our soul to hear "arise, O sleeper, and rise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

- Paston Matt

TABERNACLE METHODIST CHURCH July Financial Well-Check - \$714,228 Annual Budget Giving Goal \$363,453 Spending thru July **←** \$303,733 Giving thru July

Dear Tabernacle Family,

Thank you for your faithful support of Tabernacle Methodist Church. Giving toward the operating budget totaled \$303,733 and operating expenses totaled \$363,453 as of July 28th. While our giving to the operating budget remains at a deficit, we are encouraged that our Meals 4 Kids (backpack program) is in good shape for the start of the school year. That is a positive!

As you feel led, please consider an additional gift to our operating budget so that we can begin planning for fall activities with a positive and encouraged attitude.

Summer is in full swing, and our calendars often get overly hectic. Simplify your busy life by using Realm, our online automated giving platform. It's secure and easy to set up. Just contact the church office with questions or if you need assistance setting up automated giving.

www.tabernaclemethodist.com/give

~ Finance Team



DISCOVER WHERE YOUR

As members of God's family through Jesus Christ, we are called to serve others. We have multiple ways you can do that on a Sunday morning and beyond. Please click HERE for opportunities to sign up. Email the church can make a difference office at office@tabernaclemethodist.com

Church Council meeting dates for 2025:

August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9, and December 14. Please mark your calendars.

We will resume monthly Church Council gatherings in our fellowship hall @ 5:50 pm. We will share a meal, pray together, learn from one another, and lead as a united team. Dinner will be provided each month. We will prioritize praying for our church and community, open Scripture together, and discuss the essential mission and business of Tabernacle.

Tabernacle's Charge Conference, Sunday, November 16, at 2:30 PM

We are thrilled to introduce Allie Roth as the newest member of our church staff, serving as the Kids' Ministry Director. Allie brings a heart full of passion for children and a deep commitment to sharing the love of Christ with the next generation. In her first week, Allie hit the ground running, demonstrating incredible leadership as she coordinated volunteers and made a tremendous impact on our Vacation Bible School program, which was a resounding success! From planning before she even began in the role to the final execution, Allie's dedication ensured that VBS was not only fun but also meaningful for all involved. We are excited to see how Allie's energy, vision, and faith will continue to shape and grow our Kids' Ministry in the future. Please join us in welcoming Allie and lifting her up in prayer as she embarks on this new chapter!

School Supply Drive

July 20th - August 17, 2025

Donation Boxes are in:

Narthex

Commons

CLC

Church Office

Donations support:

Pleasant Garden, Nathaniel Greene, **Simkins and Alamance Elementary** Schools, SE Middle School and SE High School.

Donations are for needy students as identified by their school counselors and teachers.

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KIDS

IN YOUR

COMMUNITY!



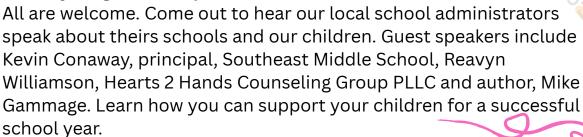
THANK YOU!

in advance for sharing with our children and for your donation

GCSNC Returns to School on August 25, 2025

Tabernacle Methodist Women Back to School Meeting

Sunday, Aug 17th, 2 - 4 pm in the CLC





Thank you

for the cards, the calls and the visits during my recent illness. Your prayers were invaluable and so much appreciated. I am blessed to belong to a community of faith that cares for each other so well.

- Teresa Ehrhardt



Sept 26th: Preparation Day

Sept 27th: Cooking & Sale at 3:00 PM All members are invited to participate in the stew... a great time of fellowship and any amount of help is appreciated •



ALTAR FLOWERS SIGN UP CHART

digitally in the Church Office. Sign up to place flowers on the retable of the Sanctuary altar in memory or honor of loved one or special event.

Pleasant Garden. If you would like to sign up, please contact Christina in the church office.





click here for JOB POSTING

- REMINDER -

Monthly Newsletter deadline is on the 20th of every month. Email or call office.

TMCFAMILYMINISTRY

August 22nd 4:00-6:00 Back to School "Mess-tival" in CLC

- Let's get MESSY!
- Fun & Games for everyone bring your friends!
- Hotdog dinner provided by Methodist Men

All is invited for supper and to stay and enjoy the fun!!





September 21 Churchwide Picnic at Hagan Stone 3:00-7:00pm

- Hamburger & Hotdog Dinner
- Please bring a side or a dessert
- Bring a chair
- We will have fun games for all!



August 24th Backpack Blessings & Promotion Sunday

- all kids bring backpacks for us to pray over during service
- 3rd Graders will be receiving their own Bibles
- Promotion Sunday kids will move up in grades for Sunday School



Back to School WORD SEARCH

Playground

Lockers

Crayons

Recess

Desk

Principal

Assembly

School

Study

Bus

Classroom

Teachers

Pencil

Test

Music

Students

Hallway

Lunch

Gym

YSSCHOOLPENCILE EAWP

RCRAYONS



Tabernacle Week Day School

Child Care Upcoming Events



SAVE THE DATE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 COLOR RUN/WALK FUNDRAISER AND COMMUNITY EVENT



RAISING MONEY TO UPDATE OUR PLAYGROUNDS.

JULY'S ROUNDUP OF ACTIVITIES

GSO Library Reading to the Kids

Petting Zoo

Kona Ice Truck

Tasty Palette Cooking Class

Yoga

Soccer Shots

Fire Dept Water Fun Day

Mad Science Class

Pottery Painting



Please prayerfully consider this trip and opportunity to serve. If you are interested, please complete these <u>forms by downloading</u> <u>here</u> or pick one up at the office by Aug 8th



STARTING JUNE 8TH

till Aug. 24, 2025

COME TO OUR TABLE @TABERNACLE Coming Soon Wednesday, August 27th

FREE DINNER

Every 4th Wednesday of each month

- EVERYONE WELCOME -

5:00-6:30PM

Community Meal

Join us to welcome our community... ... setup, serve, clean up, and tear down.

Contact Matt & Emily Stevenson to assist in setup, serving, and cleanup. (704)213-0035





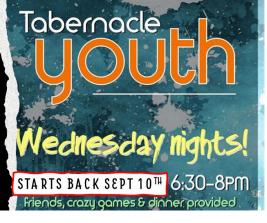
Reaching out to Greensboro's homeless every Saturday at 6:00PM under the bridge at 300 Spring Garden St. Each meeting includes a hot meal, fellowship, & worship. Please join us. Saturday, September 13th ~ Meal prep at Tabernacle CLC 3:30 pm~ Meet at CUB to help serve 5:30 pm Sign up to help. Click HERE or visit tabernaclemethodist.com/events

FOLLOW US:



Food - Fun Fellowship Faith building

6th – 12th grades
Bring a friend!



Tabernacle Methodist Church
Christian Life Center
PAVERS FUNDRAISER

2 Options to choose from 4x8 Pavers \$250 ea. 8x8 Pavers \$350 ea. HONOR & MEMORIALIZE a loved one, group or cause

REMEMBER TO PLACE YOUR ORDER TODAY

Order forms are available in the office. For more information, contact Lynda Gordon 336-707-1305



Would you support Tabernacle MC Sunshine Circle by making a Rada Cutlery purchase?

You'll help our group AND get something wonderful for your kitchen or wedding or birthday gifts for someone else! These products are **high quality, made-in-in the USA!** Get your own Rada set for summer fruits and vegetables or try some of their dip mixes for summer entertaining.

Three easy ways to shop:



- Shop online using the following link or QR Code for products delivered directly to you: https://rb.gy/7vtgy
- Purchase from our limited supply of most popular Rada favorites (paring knives, peeler, tomato slicer, and so much more!!)
- Contact Paula Ginn (336.908.5019), Vicky Wheeler (336.207.7025) or any Sunshine Circle member for assistance.

When you buy using the above shopping link or code, the profits go toward OUR fundraising to support local missions! Thank you! We appreciate your purchase!



Birthdays

01 Conner Burke

01 Jane Miller

01 Teddy Rafferty

01 Jean Womble

02 Charlotte Fogleman

06 Michael K. Brown

06 Fields Oliver

07 Michele Whiteside

08 Rumsey Helms

10 Ted Stewart, Jr.

11 Jared Cox

12 Linda Calhoun

13 Chris Ehrhardt

13 Brenda Stephens

14 Davis Lincoln

14 Alton Overby

14 Kristina Overton

15 Kristen Fields

16 Robert McKnight

16 David Merrill

16 Nina Stout

16 Madelaine Williamson

17 Charlotte Stewart

18 Maria Barker

18 Harper Perry

19 Leah Dunn

19 Margaret Sheets

19 Kenneth Worthington

20 Javin Bradley

23 Carla Elu

24 Jonah Miller

25 Kyle Harris

27 Gavin Thomas

28 Pete Cox

30 Ashley Coons

30 Shirley Pratt

Anniversaries

05 Michael & Mitzi Brown

05 Jerry & Iris Brothers

05 Andy & Michelle Griffin

08 Adam & Elise Conn

13 Freo & Cindy Webster

17 Mike & Cindy Palmer

19 Sam & Angela Mackie-Jones

20 Bob & Linda Zane

24 Jack & Katue Rindal

27 Alex & Mary Kathryn Smith

28 Kyle & Bonnie Harris

28 Ed & Peggy Christenbury

31 Mark & Terry Bradley

Did we miss an anniversary or birthday? Let us know. office@tabernaclemethodist.com



Methodist Men - 2nd Thursday 6:30 (not in summer)

Fellowship & Friendship Circle - 2nd Monday 2 pm

Sunshine Circle - 3rd Monday 7pm

Backpack Ministry - Wednesdays

Quilt Ministry - 2nd Wednesday 10 am

OUR TABLE @Tabernacle - 4th Wednesdays 5 pm

Cub Scouts / Boy Scouts - Mondays 6:30 / 7:30 pm

Youth Group - Wednesdays 6:30 pm (not in summer)

Kids Choir Practice - Sundays 11 am

Alive Praise Band practice - Sundays 7pm

Women's Fitness Fellowship - Mondays 5:30 pm

Men's Basketball Fellowship - Tues/Thurs 6:30 pm

Chancel Choir practice - Wednesday 6:30 pm

Campus Life Youth - Thursdays 4:30 pm

Prayer Meeting in Chapel- 1st & 3rd Sundays 6 pm

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In Loving Memory of Betty Hobb's sister, Phyllis O'Daniel by

Rumsey & Anne Helms

In Loving Memory of Chris Helms by

Patsy Helms

In Gratitude to Dave Merrill, Brandon Burke and TWDS Board by

June Sofley & Cindy Odum

In Loving Memory of Gaynell Dunlap by

Rumsey & Anne Helms

TLC Committee

Shellia Williamson

Patsy Helms & Gary Coble

Sharon & Jackie Neece

Linda Fields & family

Ellen Blake

Vicky Wheeler

In Loving Memory of Glenn Griffin by

Rumsey & Anne Helms

Shellia Williamson

Patsy Helms & Gary Coble

Sharon & Jackie Neece

Linda Fields & Family

Ellen Blake

Vicky Wheeler

Glenn Cook

Warren & Paula Ginn

Chancel Choir

In Loving Memory of Ron Clark by

Rumsey & Anne Helms

Warren & Paula Ginn

Chancel Choir

In Loving Memory of Larry Proctor by

Rumsey & Anne Helms

TABERNACLE PRAYER CONCERNS

NEWER CONCERNS

Robert Dunlap, Helen Wilson, Teresa Ehrhardt, Ronnie & Glenda Stout, Jimmy Horney, Sandra Burns, Shirley and Charlie Pratt, Betty Worley, Linda King

CONTINUING CONCERNS

Ophie Timmons, Mike & Mitzi Brown, Kay Kiger,
Mandy Cox, Warren Ginn, Diane Hancock,
Rick Harris, Roger Johnson, Sherry Proctor,
Howard Fields, Dianne Smith, Bob Sosnowski, Leon
Brown, Rebecca Collins, John Dyson, Richie & Ruth
Winquist, Bob & Linda Zane, Janet & Larry Wagner,
Dale & Bernie Sartin, Joyce Ensley, Phyllis Love

HOMEBOUND (Addresses found on REALM)
Linda Billings, John and Carol Dyson, Mary Sue Laws,
Fred Morrell, Jean Penry, Jean Rankin, Barbara Ross,
Nancy Royal, Margaret Sheets, Sadie Clapp, Poochie
Neece, Nina Stout

EXTENEDED FRIENDS AND FAMILIES

Terry Brothers, Emily Brame, Mark Loy, Wesley Hall, Samantha Panzner, Bob McCaskill, Ricky Ingram, Kevin Jones, Dawn Canoy, Jason Stephens, Robin Staley, Duane Staley, Christina Holloway, Dale Atkinson, Pat Branson, Billie Ramsey, Colton Scoggin, Bailey Gaskins, Gary McPherson, Angie Samsel, Sue Oakley, Ruth Carr, Jill Miller, Daryl Fogleman, Joe Orsak, Virgil Thomas

MILITARY

Casey Hardie, Jason "Caesar" Wolff, Joel Woods, Trevor Zane Ward

MISSIONARY PARTNERS

Alger & Joyce Morris (Cambodia), Anup & Darcy Rai (Thailand). Greensboro Urban Ministry, Church Under the Bridge, Operation Christmas Child, Room at the Inn, Backpack Ministry, Youth for Christ/Campus Life

Prayer Request

Please pray for God healing power to touch every cancer cell in my body. Replace sickness with strength.

God of miracles bring healing and wholeness. - Anonymous