

February 2026

Tabernacle Methodist

Monthly Newsletter



Faith on Purpose

Have you ever noticed how easy it is to be *reactive* in life?

We react to emails.

We react to traffic.

We react to that one comment someone made three days ago that we *definitely* didn't overthink at all.

Faith can drift that way too.

In Acts 13:22, God describes David with one of the most remarkable summaries in Scripture: *"I have found David... a man after My own heart."* What's fascinating is that this description isn't given because David was perfect (he definitely wasn't), but because David was **intentional**. He didn't just stumble into faith—he pursued God on purpose.

David didn't wait for life to slow down before seeking the Lord. He didn't say, "Once things settle down, I'll get serious about God." (Because let's be honest—things never really settle down.) Whether he was tending sheep, hiding in caves, or leading a nation, David made a habit of turning toward God first. His faith was proactive, not accidental.

Being "after God's heart" doesn't mean you never mess up. It means when you do, you don't run *from* God—you run *to* Him. David planned space for prayer, worship, repentance, and trust long before crisis moments arrived. That preparation shaped how he responded when pressure hit.

Here's the truth: reactive faith waits until life gets hard. Proactive faith builds roots before the storm.

This doesn't require dramatic gestures or spiritual heroics. It looks more like daily, quiet choices:

- Choosing prayer instead of panic
- Choosing obedience instead of convenience
- Choosing trust instead of control

It's opening Scripture before scrolling social media. It's asking, "God, what are You doing in me?" instead of only asking, "God, can You fix this?" It's feeding the right things in our hearts so that when life squeezes us, faith comes out.

At Tabernacle, our prayer is that we wouldn't just be people who attend church, but people who **actively pursue God's heart together**—in ordinary days, not just emergency ones. Because when faith is intentional, it becomes transformational.

So this week, don't wait to react. Take one small step toward God on purpose. David didn't become a man after God's heart by accident—and neither do we.

And the good news? God is still looking for hearts like that today

~ Pastor Matt

STAFF MEMBERS

Matt Morris - Senior Pastor, mmorris@tabernaclemethodist.com | **Joe Essick - Associate Pastor**, jessick@tabernaclemethodist.com
Carla Ely - Minister of Music, cely@tabernaclemethodist.com | **Zach Jones-Ely - Contemporary Music Director**, zjely@tabernaclemethodist.com
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Cindy Odum - Daycare Director, twds@tabernaclemethodist.com | **June Sofley - Daycare Assistant Director**, twds@tabernaclemethodist.com

Thank you to our church family for your prayerful and generous response to our December giving update. Because of your faithfulness, December support increased, and we closed 2025 with a general fund deficit of only \$25,612—a significant improvement and a true encouragement.

Generous gifts were also received during 2025 for the CLC Building Fund.

\$1,063,927 CLC Bank Loan Balance at end of 2025

Your gifts support the ministry we share together and reflect a congregation united in faith and trust in God's provision. As we begin this new year, we do so with gratitude and hope, confident that God will continue to guide and sustain us. This year, may we all be in prayerful consideration of our call as Christians to give generously from a willing and joyful heart.

[illegible]

Celebrate Valentine's Day with an evening of great food, fellowship, and fun at our **Valentine's Dinner on February 14. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., with dinner served at 6:00 p.m., followed by dancing.** Guests are invited to request their favorite songs and enjoy a lively night together on the dance floor.

Dinner will be prepared by Chef Matt Koonts, who is well known throughout our church for his delicious, crowd-pleasing meals. Best of all, all proceeds from the dinner will support our missions outreach, helping extend God's love beyond our walls. Join us for a memorable evening that feeds both body and soul! ❤️

Tickets are \$60/couple or \$30 for individuals. Dinner will consist of tomato basil soup, a CHOICE of Chicken Marsala with mashed parmesan potatoes OR sliced roast beef with Hunter's sauce and a wild rice blend followed by dessert. **Tickets will be on sale in the commons area between the Alive and 11 am services on Sundays 1/25, 2/1, and 2/8. You can also reserve your tickets by calling Chris or Amy Ehrhardt at (336) 908-0117. This meal is limited to 40 couples so get your tickets early.**

Special Menu

Soup Of Love: *Tomato Basil*

Choice 1-Lovebird:
*Chicken Marsala with mashed
parmesan potatoes*

Choice 2-Beef My Valentine
sliced roast beef with Hunter's
sauce & a wild rice blend

Special Dessert

[illegible]

Helpers Needed for Valentine Dinner fundraiser for Missions. Saturday, February 14.

Kitchen help and servers needed. Please contact Chris or Amy Ehrhardt (336) 908-0117 if you are available to help.

Birthdays

- # Birthdays
- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Jerry Spence | 7 Cathy Johnson | 16 Carolyn Toole |
| 2 Kaelyn Wingfield | 8 Tracey Barrett | 16 Sharon Kasey |
| 2 Chris Barker | 8 Jacob Dunlop | 16 Elizabeth Wilson |
| 4 Glenda Stout | 9 Estie Bell Morris | 17 Natalia Rafferty |
| 4 Dee Wolff | 10 Phil Braxton | 17 Janice Horney |
| 4 Matthew Coons | 10 Ronnie Stout | 19 Lilly Stewart |
| 5 Abigail Cook | 13 Warren Ginn | 21 Brandon Burke |
| 6 Charlie Oliver | 13 Annette Turner | 21 Rick Smith |
| | 15 Jamie Jones | 22 Presley Griffin |
| | 15 Sandy Guffey | |

Anniversaries

- 1 Matthew & Elizabeth Anhaiser
2 Jimmy & Rebecca Collins
14 Ambrous & Ruby Archie
14 Bryan & Tami Fields
20 Jerry & Terry Spence
20 Frank & Diana Hairr
28 Dan & Janie Cockman

Celebrate YOU

[illegible]

Mark Your Calendars - February.

- 11** Our Table @ Tabernacle: **5 - 6:30 pm CLC**
- 14** **Valentines Day**
Tabernacle's Valentines Dinner & Dance: **5:30pm CLC**
- 15** Church Council Dinner & Prayer: **5:30pm FH**
- 16** **Presidents Day**
GCSNC Teacher Workday - No School
- 17** Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper: **5 pm FH**
- 18** **Ash Wednesday**
Ashes on Ash Wednesday, Stop- in: **6:30AM-7:30AM,**
11:30AM-12:30PM Chapel
Ash Wednesday Service: 7pm Chapel
- 20** Newsletter Content Due
- 25** Our Table @ Tabernacle: **5 - 6:30 pm CLC**

Monthly.

Kids Choir Practice - **Sundays 11 am**
 Alive Praise Band practice - **Sundays 7pm**
 A "Good Start" Bible Study - **Mondays 6am CLC**
 Women's Fitness Fellowship - **Mondays 5:30 pm**
 Cub Scouts / Boy Scouts - **Mondays 6:30 / 7:30 pm**
 Sunshine Circle - **3rd Monday 7pm**
 Men's Basketball Fellowship - **Tues/Thurs 6:30 pm**
 Kids' Tumbling - **Tuesdays 4:15 pm**
 Backpack Ministry - **Wednesdays**
 Quilt Ministry - **2nd Wednesday 10 am**
 Youth Group - **Wednesdays 6:30 pm (no summer)**
 Chancel Choir practice - **Wednesday 6:30 pm**
 Our Table @ Tabernacle - **4th Wednesday 5 - 6:30 pm CLC**
 Methodist Men - **2nd Sunday 8 am (no summer) FH**
 Fellowship & Friendship Circle - **2nd Thursday 2 pm**
 Campus Life Youth - **Thursdays 4:30 pm**

Church Council Meeting 2026

5:30 PM Fellowship Hall – Dinner Served
February 15th | March 8th | April 12th

Upcoming Events for Kids Ministry.

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 17 | 5:00 PM | Fellowship Hall

- Join us for an all-you-can-eat pancake dinner!
- We are looking for volunteers to help with setup, cooking, and cleanup.
- To-go boxes will be available for families who are unable to attend in person.

Easter Egg Hunt

March 22 | 2:00–3:00 PM | CLC & Ballfield

- We're excited to welcome families from our church and community for a fun Easter Egg Hunt!
- Volunteers are needed to help with setup, greeting families, and overseeing the egg hunt on the ball field.
- We will begin in the CLC with a short Easter message, then walk together to the ball field for the egg hunt.

Volunteer Opportunities

- As always, we would love for you to be involved in our Children's Ministry! If you're interested in learning more about ways to serve, please reach out to Allie Roth, (336) 813-2133 aroth@tabernaclemethodist.com.

Adult Sunday Classes

Rm 130 Adult Disciples
Rm 134 Curiosity Class
CLC Men's Bible Study
Rm 126 The Parables Class
CLC Women's Bible Study
Parlor The Amor of God
Classes Start at 10-10:45am



Cub Scouts Food Drive - Now thru **February 15th**.
Collection Bins Throughout the Church and CLC



The **Prayer Quilt Ministry at Tabernacle** is an important ministry in the life of the church. Through the quilts, we share the prayers of our congregation and the love and comfort of Christ. If you know of someone who would benefit from a tangible way to feel the presence of God through the prayers of the church, let us know. You can contact the church office or Paula Ginn at pginn11554@aol.com, or 336-908-5019. Thank you!

New Small Group Opportunity!

Starting Sunday, February 1st at 10am in the parlor (near the office in the education building). If you've been feeling spiritually weary, distracted, or like you're fighting battles you can't quite name, this is for you. **The Armor of God by Priscilla Shirer** is an invitation to understand the spiritual resistance we face—and to learn how to stand firm, not in our own strength, but in God's. This isn't about fear or perfection. It's about awareness, confidence, and learning how to live equipped instead of exposed. This study is for the woman who loves God but feels stretched. For the one who's tired of reacting and ready to stand. For the one who wants truth, community, and practical faith that reaches into everyday life. You don't need to have it all together. You don't need to be a Bible expert. You just need a willing heart. Come as you are. Bring your questions, your honesty, your hope. Study books can be purchased here: <https://a.co/d/5eqz5Pr>. Let's learn how to put on the armor—not just know about it. Hope you will make plans to join us! Contact Tami Fields (336-558-1418) or Rebecca Stewart (336-908-5220) with questions.

Dear Church Family,

The family of Kay Kiger wishes to extend our deepest thanks for the caring and kindness shown to us during our recent loss. Whether you sent a card, offered a prayer, provided a meal, or gave a donation, please know that your generosity touched our hearts deeply.

~The Kiger Family

1-14-26
Dear Tabernacle Family,
Thank you so much
for the love and comfort
you recently expressed
to me. It means so much
in this season of my life.
The gift basket and visit
are very much appreciated.
Love,
Steph

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In Loving Memory of Kay Kiger by

Gene & Vickie Flinchum & Family
Pete & Brenda Stephens
Jay & Lynda Gordon
Evan & Chelsea Lawson
Lisa Hall
Shellia Williamson
Talitha Holt
June Sofley



In Loving Memory of James Newton, Jr.

Rumsey & Anne Helms

In Loving Memory of Helen Wilson by

Mike & Lisa Lee
Jay & Lynda Gordon
George & Christi Schmitt

In Loving Memory of Susan Sosnowski by

Kathy Cox

In Loving Memory of Richard Cox by

Kathy Cox

In Loving Memory of Gary McPherson

Rumsey & Anne Helms

With heartfelt sympathy, we share the passing of **Nancy Royal** and **Neil Horney**.

We extend our prayers and deepest condolences to their families and loved ones.

Please keep them in your prayers during this difficult time.

Additional information will be shared as it becomes available.