

# THE TABERNACLE TIMES

Worship Passionately ~ Love Extravagantly ~ Witness Boldly

## STAFF

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## It's Not About Me!

Murder? Jesus heals a man and people plot to murder him. That's crazy! Jesus heals a man with a deformed hand in the synagogue on the Sabbath and people literally began planning Jesus's murder (Mark 3:1-6). Why? Because Jesus wrecked their religious rituals. We learn early in life that you don't talk politics or religion at the dinner table. Those are fighting words and religion is a deadly game. Although Jesus could have waited 24 hours, or he could have quietly healed in secret, instead Jesus made a bold statement to prove a critical point. True Religion is not about me! True Religion is always about God and them.



When Jesus proclaims "The Kingdom of God is at hand" Jesus is letting everyone know that the true manner of our worship is being revealed (Mark 1:15). Later, Jesus would famously articulate the two most fundamental elements of pleasing and worshiping God: Love the Lord God with all your heart, soul, and mind. And love your neighbor as yourself. Everything, Jesus said, hangs on those two commands (Matt 22:37-40). So true religion is all about loving God and loving others. Do you notice who is not there? True religion is not about me! True Religion is always about God and them.

John Wesley was a priest in a culture and time where the church had immense influence and power. Yet in the midst of this cultural expectation for proper religion, a large percentage of the population did not attend church and did not have saving faith in Jesus. John Wesley became captivated by the passionate faith and preaching of a handful of priests willing to break ritual and religious standards to share Jesus wherever the people gathered. They preached outside the church in the coal mines, in the town square, out on the hillside. Wherever people could hear, these preachers shared Jesus. The religious establishment reacted harshly. They persecuted, beat, and imprisoned these open-air preachers. Yet people were hearing the Gospel and finding saving faith in Jesus. It was hard to go against his religious expectations but on April 2, 1739, John Wesley joined the movement. He wrote in his journal, "At four in the afternoon I submitted to be more vile, and proclaimed in the highways the glad tidings of salvation." Tabernacle Methodist Church is a direct descendent of this bold choice. John Wesley let his true religion be about God and them.

We live in similarly challenging and changing times. A large percentage of our population does not attend church and does not have saving faith in Jesus. However, open-air preaching no longer reaches the people. Online preaching has only a small impact. The way people are reached with the Good News of Christ today is through intentional friendships. We need to go make friends, real relationships exhibiting trust and affection,

## TABERNACLE ONLINE

**Website:**  
[TabernacleMethodist.com](http://TabernacleMethodist.com)

**Facebook page:**  
[@Tabernacle MethodistChurch](https://www.facebook.com/TabernacleMethodistChurch)

**YouTube channel:**  
[@TabernacleGreensboro](https://www.youtube.com/@TabernacleGreensboro)

**Realm Online Giving:**  
<https://onrealm.org/tabernaclemethodist/>  
[SignIn](#)

**Master Calendar:**  
(check the church website)  
[www.tabernaclemethodist.com](http://www.tabernaclemethodist.com)



## It's Not About Me!—cont.

with our unbelieving friends. But then what? For the last 50 years in America, a movement has grown that suggests a radical idea: True Religion isn't about you. (The movie The Jesus Revolution depicts the start of this movement.) Church isn't about you. Instead, we are the Church and our church buildings and services are for God and them. The place we worship, like the synagogue where Jesus healed the man's hand, is an opportunity for people to be healed, finding salvation. Church is for the unchurched. True Religion is always about God and them.

In a church for the unchurched, we design what we do and how we do it around the needs and expectations of our unbelieving, unchurched friends. The space, the music, and the sermon are organized so that they bless everyone but make sense to our visiting friends. We could call it intentional hospitality. When I plan to have guests at my house, I clean, shop, and organize a space with my visiting friend in mind. The guest gets the best. They are the center of attention. A church for the unchurched approaches Sunday mornings with the same compassion, hospitality, and love in mind. We practice our true religion by making it about God and them.

It seems wrong to make our church more about the unchurched. We so quickly forget that real church has nothing to do with our rituals or space. Our services are not the church. We, those with saving faith, are the Church. We have Christ and we are the body of Christ. We have our brothers and sisters who pray for us, train and equip us, and serve along side us. We have all we need in those relationships. We are loved by God. So for us, true religion is the practice of loving God and others.

Tabernacle family, I want to place a bold challenge before us. 100 churches close every week in the United States. Average church attendance is down 50% since 2000. The overwhelming majority of church attenders nationwide are over the age of 65. Yet there is a movement of growing churches designed for unbelieving and unchurched friends. It seems absurd. Many will say, "We want our church!" But Tabernacle, can we embrace our heritage and become what John Wesley might call "more vile." Can we practice a religion that isn't about me? Can we choose true religion firmly focused on loving God and loving our neighbors? Can we become a church for the unchurched? —Pastor Matt

## Dinner to Benefit Honduras Mission Trips

**TABERNACLE ANNUAL SWEETHEART DINNER**  
**\$30 – Individual / \$60 - Couple**

**Be Our Valentine**  
 Dinner + The “Not-so-Newlywed” Game

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024**  
**5:30pm – Seating      6:00pm - Dinner**

**CONTACT: Chris or Amy Ehrhardt 336.908.0117**



Come be our Valentine on Sat. Feb 10 and enjoy an evening with your special someone... any sweetheart will do! Not just for Lovebirds...bring your grandparent, grandchild, friend, or neighbor for a delicious meal prepared by our Chef Matt Koontz. Then be prepared to be entertained as some of our favorite Tabernacle couples try to prove they do "know" each other in our version of the "Not-So-Newlywed" Game. Hurry — seats are filling up fast!

Tickets available online at [www.tabernaclemethodist.com](http://www.tabernaclemethodist.com) , between services in the Commons Area , or Contact Chris or Amy Ehrhardt (336)908-0117. Proceeds will go to support future Honduras Mission Trips.

## Making Our Decision for Scouts.

The Boy Scouts of America have changed a lot in the last 15 years. The Scouts have made national headlines with their political stands and billion-dollar lawsuits. Because of this and many other cultural changes, Scouting numbers are down significantly. Many churches, once strong partners with the Scouts, are disbanding their troops or turning to other organizations. Even more disheartening, many of the proclamations of the national leaders for Scouts stand in direct opposition to the beliefs of Tabernacle. The leaders of Tabernacle were challenged to make a decision concerning our continued support of our troop. We have made a bold, intentional choice to support our Scouting program and encourage our Tabernacle family to become actively involved! We want to be a positive influence and a good, true friend to our Scouts and our community!

We are excited to be welcoming hosts to the great leaders and amazing kids actively involved in our troop. On top of that, we want to do all we can to partner with these leaders, support the troops and their families, and demonstrate the love of Christ with every interaction. We are grateful for the opportunities Scouts gives our pastors to be involved. Starting in February Pastor Joe will be leading some of our Scouts in the God and Me program. February 11 will be Scout Sunday, where we welcome our troop into our worship experience. The troop will also be selling chili that Sunday. Many more opportunities to be involved will be shared throughout the year.

We want to do more. To do more, to be a more positive and active influence and friend in the lives of these young scouts, we need you. Do you have a history in Scouts? Do you have a skill that can benefit the scouting program? Would you be willing to partner with the Scout leaders, lending a hand where opportunity exists and being a strong example of the very best of not only a Scout, but a follower of Jesus can be? Then we would ask that you join us in supporting our scouting community. When national news gives us reason to be disillusioned with Boy Scouts, lets show our scouts and community something better!



Cub Scout Troop 426 in 2023 Christmas Parade

## IF: 2024 Women's Retreat

**IF:Gathering** is a global event that equips women with gospel-centered resources, events, and community so they may learn more about who God is and disciple other women right where they are. You can participate in the event by joining our Tabernacle Women and teens in our CLC along with hundreds of thousands of women worldwide on Feb 23-24.

At **IF:2024**, we want to create the opportunity for you to experience Jesus. We want you to remember His character, power, mystery, love, and delight. Jesus is our friend, our King, our reason to live fully alive. He fills our longings. He heals our wounds. He saves us from ourselves. He gives us hope when everything else fails us.

**IF:2024** is a space for us to remember who Jesus is and why we love him. For two days, let's rediscover the person of Jesus, who is alive and wants to take us on an adventure towards full life. And then, let's give Him away to the whole world.

**Event Cost: \$15**

[Event Registration Click Here](#)

**Dinner Friday: \$10 (optional)**

**Lunch Sat: \$15 (optional)**

[Meal Registration Click Here](#)

Register also at

[www.tabernaclemethodist.com](http://www.tabernaclemethodist.com)

Questions: Kerri Morris (704) 734-3327  
Tami Fields (336) 674-2941



## ✓ Mark Your Calendars

### FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb 8—Methodist Men  
**Feb 11—Scout Sunday & Chili Lunch Fundraiser**  
**Feb 12—Fellowship/Friendship Circle**  
**Feb 14—Ash Wednesday Service**  
**Feb 15—Grief Share @ 10 am for 13 weeks**  
**FEB 16/17 — Boy Scout Pinewood Derby**

Feb 19—Sunshine Circle

**Feb 23/24—IF: Gathering 2024**

Feb 25—Church Council Meeting

Feb 28—Pleasant Union Church Blood Drive

Feb 29— Leap Day Pancake Supper

### MARCH DATES TO REMEMBER

Mar 24—Palm Sunday/Egg Hunt  
 Mar 31—Easter Sunday

Dear Church Members,

I want to thank you all for the great basket of goodies you brought me. I really do appreciate it. I hope to soon get back to Sunday School and Church more regularly.

—Sandy Jones

To all the folks at Tabernacle!

Thank you very much for remembering me at Christmas. Thank you for the basket of sweets and goodies and the poinsettia plant. It was such a thoughtful gift. Many, many thanks. God bless. —Jean Rankin

THANKFUL  
**Grateful**  
 & BLESSED

## WORSHIP



Worship Is A  
Lifestyle

Prayer Guides  
Every Step

### Worship Services Sunday

Contemporary Alive Service 9:00 am in the CLC  
 Traditional Service 11:00 am in the Sanctuary

### Weekly Worship Groups

Chancel Choir— Wed 6:30pm  
 Kids Choir— Sun 4:00 pm  
 ALIVE Band Practice—7:00 pm

**ONLINE GIVING WITH REALM** is a safe and easy method to ensure your tithes and offerings are delivered regularly to Tabernacle. You can schedule weekly or monthly gifts, or manually process them through the Connect App. The **Tabernacle Church Family** should **ALWAYS** use the Connect App or **sign in** to Realm on an internet browser to process their online gifts to avoid creating duplicate giving accounts:

<https://onrealm.org/tabernaclemethodist/SignIn>

If you have not created a Realm Account and need an invitation sent to your email, contact Kim Strader at 410-991-7719.



### INVITATION—JOIN THE CHANCEL CHOIR

Are you looking for another way to serve our God? Come join our chancel choir! We sing a special song for God each week in the 11:00 am service. We would love to have you! Practice —Weds @ 6:30 PM You don't need to know how to read music....You don't even have to have a glorious voice....



Feb 14 Service in the  
Chapel @ 7 PM



### ALTAR FLOWERS SIGN UP CHART

The Flower Chart for 2024 is posted in the Church Office. Sign up to place flowers on the retable of the Sanctuary altar in memory or honor of a loved one or special event. Arrangements are coordinated through Corum Florist, Pleasant Garden.



Flower  
Calendar

## CONNECT

You Can't Do  
Life AloneGrowing People  
Change**MONTHLY Ladies' Circle Meetings**

Fellowship/Friendship Circle—2nd Mon 2:00 pm  
Sunshine Circle—3rd Mon 7:00 pm

**Sunday School 10 am—10:45**

Nursery for Infants &amp; Toddlers provided 8:45-12 noon

Adults Mixed ages, singles & couples**Adult Disciple**—Room 130 led by Janice Horney  
& Charlotte Fogleman**Curiosity Class**— Room 123 led by Mike Brown**Friendly Bible Study**—Room 134 led by David Helms**Parables**—Room 121 led by Brad EhrhardtWomen**Find Your People**—Fellowship Hall led by Kerri MorrisMen**Thrive**—CLC after Alive Service led by Pastors Matt and Joe**Hand and Foot Card Group**—Every Tues 11:30**Methodist Men**—2nd Thurs 6:30 pm**Children:** Preschool Rm 143 / K-2nd Rm 146 / 3rd-5th Rm 122**Youth:** Middle School and High School—Basement Rooms 03/04**CHURCHWIDE****FAMILY****FELLOWSHIP****LEAPDAY****PANCAKE****SUPPER****LEAP DAY - FREE - Fellowship Hall**

(Donations Accepted)

**THURSDAY****Feb 29  
5:30-7pm**

*"He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others."*  
2 Corinthians 1:4



GRIEF RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

*You don't have to grieve alone.*

FEB 15 – May (THURSDAYS 10-11:30am)- Parlor

CONTACT: MARGEE WRENN margeewrenn5@triad.rr.com

Have you lost a loved one? **GriefShare** is a support group to help you move through the grief process. A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way. Group starts Thursday, Feb 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 am and continues through the Spring.

## SERVE

Giving Is  
A GiftSaved People  
Serve People**SERVING OPPORTUNITIES**USE WHATEVER GIFT YOU HAVE RECEIVED  
TO SERVE OTHERS - 1 PETER 4:10

Back Pack Ministry—Wednesdays

Greensboro Urban Ministry—Thurs noon

Quilt Ministry—2nd Wed 10:00 am

The following ministries at Tabernacle need more hands to help lighten the load of those who fill these roles. Rotations allow serving based on your availability or desired frequency. Please consider helping out one or two Sundays. Full training provided.

**Sunday School & Nursery Helpers**

No teaching required, just "extra hands" needed in each of our rooms!

**Alive Hospitality Team** Serve by making the coffee, setting up the beverage and snack table and making sure everything is returned to its proper order

**Greensboro Urban Ministry** Assist at the Food Pantry of the Greensboro Urban Ministry food pantry—Thursdays at noon. Contact Pastor Joe .

**ALIVE SERVICE Setup TEAMS** Placing chairs and tables for worship on Sunday mornings.

**Livestream Camera At 11:00 Worship**—run the camera for livestreaming of the 11:00 am service..

Contact the church office if you wish to join any of these teams to serve the Kingdom here at Tabernacle.

## SERVE

Giving Is  
A GiftSaved People  
Serve People

Beginning in 2024, Tabernacle has added a new international mission partner. Anup and Darcy Rai and their family have moved to Bangkok, Thailand to share Christ with the people there. Anup sent the update below and I wanted to share it with you. Please pray for this family regularly as they seek to make Jesus known!

From Anup:

Today marks 1 month since we moved to Thailand, so what better time to give a quick ministry update. Please see the pictures below for descriptions.

Where shall I begin? Thailand needs to know about our Lord and Savior. Of course, change is difficult (and has been in some ways for us), and with three children, there is definitely a higher degree of challenges. Also, Bangkok is a vast city, and it is easy to feel insignificant here. Walking around the city, the spiritual needs can be clearly seen and felt clearly, and it is easy to be overwhelmed. Did you know that out of the 71 million people in Thailand, 11 million live in Bangkok, and only around 1 percent are Christians?

What adds to the challenge is that the people of Thailand speak very little to No English. It has been difficult to communicate for regular life things- from getting water and gas for the house to getting a taxi. But we know we are where God has us. At the end of my seminary journey in July, I said, "No more language for at least a while." That is not the case today; I feel motivated to learn Thai- many days, I walk past beggars and people in need, and I want to sit down and share the love of Jesus, but I cannot. I am so ready to speak Thai (I just started language class 2 days ago).

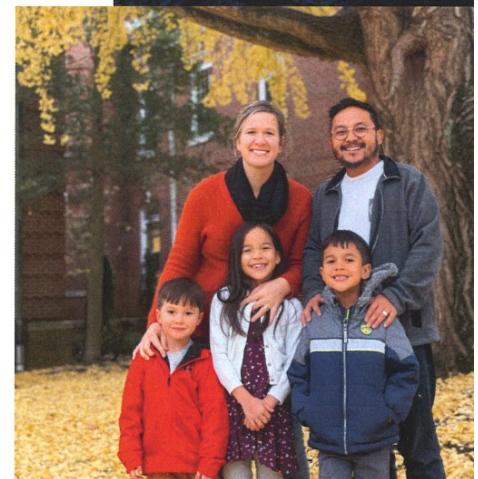
Let me end by sharing this story... I hope it touches your heart as it touched ours. We were walking in the street, looking around, and discussing how Thailand needs to know about Jesus. So, we were talking about how Thailand has less than 1% of Christians. Lucca stops us and looks at Darcy and says: "Mommy, did you know that number just increased when we came here."

That's right, Lucca.

Please pray with us that God will open the eyes of the hearts of the people of Thailand. Blessings to you all.

—Anup and Darcy Rai

## Anup and Darcy Rai



WORLD  
GOSPEL  
MISSION

Thailand

Join our  
**Visitation Team**  
caring for & connecting with our homebound members

SUNDAY  
FEB. 18  
2:00pm

Contact: Teresa Ehrhardt 336.312.0431

Anyone with a heart for connecting and visiting with those who can't get out and about like they used to .... come to the church parking lot in front of the chapel. We divide into 2-3 person teams and select

2 people to visit and spend about 45 minutes visiting in fellowship with each individual. We are always more blessed than those we visit. Come and join us! Sunday Feb 18 2:00 PM

## CHURCH COUNCIL



The Church Council will meet on Sunday, Feb, 25 at 6:30 pm in the Friendly Sunday School Classroom. All administration committee chairs and ministry team representatives should plan to attend. Church council meetings are open to all congregants.

**Youth Basketball**

Come out and support Tabernacle's Basketball teams this winter in the Pleasant Garden Youth Basketball Association 2024 season at the PG Gym. The full schedule is also on the PGYBA website:

<http://pgbball.com/>

Senior Boys Mondays	Junior Girls Saturdays	Junior Boys Thursdays	Pee Wee Boys Thurs & Saturdays
2/5 9 pm	2/3 1:45 pm	2/1 8 pm	2/1 7 pm
2/12 9 pm	2/10 1:45 pm	2/8 8 pm	2/8 7 pm
2/19 8 pm	2/17 1:45 pm	2/15 8 pm	2/15 7 pm

Regular Season Admission \$1 Feb 24-Mar 2 Tournament(TBD) Admission \$2

**Men's Basketball Fellowship**

every Tues and Thurs in  
the CLC @ 6:30



Tabernacle Women's  
Annual

**Festival of Tables**

—April 13



\*12noon – Dine in  
Fellowship Hall  
(Donation: drink,  
chili, cornbread)

Takeout  
\*10AM - To Go  
\$12/quart  
Contact:  
Brandon Burke



**THE SCHOOL OF METHODISM**  
February 9-10, 2024  
**Wesley Memorial Methodist Church**  
**1225 Chestnut Drive**  
**High Point, NC 27262**  
**Registration: \$25**

**REGISTER**

<https://wesleymemorial.org/som>

*Join leading scholars for this two-day event to explore our history as Wesleyans, what we believe, how we read scripture, what it means to live out our faith, and how our lives are shaped and formed by the worship of God. The School of Methodism is designed to equip participants in five areas:*

**\*History \*Theology \*Scripture \*Ethics \*Worship**

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- New semester of club meetings at HS and MS
- More volunteers especially at HS
- open hearts for students
- opportunities for me to meet new students

**Amy Austin**  
**SEHS YOUTH FOR CHRIST**



## TABERNACLE PRAYER CONCERNS

NEWER CONCERNS

Aaron Barrett, Alan Branson, Leon Brown, Herb Crymes, John Dyson, Lynda Gordon, Jan Hancock, Bobby & Diane Hancock, Kay Kiger, Roger Johnson, Chris Little, Enos Smith, Ophie Timmons, Richie Winquist,

CONTINUING CONCERNS

Kay Arnold, Joe Brotherton, Mike & Mitzi Brown, Rebecca Collins, Mandy Cox, Jim Culbertson, Carol Dyson, Anita Dyer, Gail Giddens, Warren Ginn, Caitlin Little, Phyllis Love, Shirley Pratt, Sherry & Larry Proctor, Dianne Smith, Bob Sosnowski, Bob & Linda Zane

EXTENDED FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Clint Aydelette, Emily & Isaiah Blankenship, Terry Brothers, Emily Brame, Beth Dyson, Darrell Fogleman, Sarah Watson, Rocky Foust, Wesley Hall, Nelson Ingram, Mark Loy, Adam Orfac, Bob McCaskill, Ricky Ingram, Mike Fuller, Edward Brotherton, Jeanette Brown, Catherine Church, Jim Gilbert, Clifton Greeson, Kevin Jones, Sydney Wood, Jason Stephens, Heather Kelly, Robin Staley, Duane Staley, Jill Miller, Christina Holloway, Mary Andrews, Harold Crabtree

In an effort to keep this page up-to-date, please contact the Church Office if you have new information about the prayer needs of our congregation.

***In Loving Memory of Jean Brown***

Given by: Leon Brown

***In Loving Memory of Cletus & Dorothy Coble***

Given by: Charlie & Jean Coble

***In Loving Memory of Cheryl Crymes***

Given By: Alan & Marie Byrd

***In Loving Memory of Buddy Ensley's 89<sup>th</sup> birthday on January 20<sup>th</sup>***

Given by: Joyce Ensley and family

**FEBRUARY DATES TO CELEBRATE!!**

Kay Arnold	01	Estie Bell Morris	09	Lilly Stewart	19
Jerry Spence	01	Phil Braxton	10	Holly Sofley Lee	19
Chris Barker	02	Ronnie Stout	10	Brandon Burke	21
Kaelyn Wingfield	02	Katy Keating	12	Daniel Ehrhardt	21
Roger Kendrick	03	Jim Culbertson	13	Margee Wrenn	23
Glenda Stout	04	Warren Ginn	13	Julia Whiteside	23
Dee Wolff	04	Annette Turner	13	Adam Conn	26
Abigail Cook	05	Sandy Guffey	15	Randy Love	26
Tracey Barrett	08	Jamie Jones	15	Chelsea Kiger	27
Michael Turner	08	Nancy Royal	15	Channing Atkins	28
		Sharon Kasey	16	Mel Brinkley	28
		Carolyn Toole	16	Carol Lambert	28
		Janice Horney	17	Chad Humphries	28
		Natalia Rafferty	17	Debra Sandt	28
		Kay Kiger	18		

**Memorials & Honorariums*****In Loving Memory of Judy Fain***

Given By: Pete & Brenda Stephens

***In Loving Memory of Parks Fields***

Given by: Charles Ross

Ken & Marilee Huntley

***In Loving Memory of George Fogleman***

Given by: Charlotte Fogleman

***In Loving Memory of Anne Lambert***

Given by: Ron Hedrick

***In Loving Memory of Bill Sosnowski***

Given By: Alan & Marie Byrd

***In Honor of our small group***

Given by: Charlotte Fogleman

***In Honor of Matt and Joe***

Given by: Floyd Fogleman

***In Honor of Patricia Fields Ross***

Given by: Charles Ross

***In Honor of Paula Ginn***

Given By: Ronnie & Glenda Stout



Jimmy & Rebecca Collins 02  
 David & Helen Wilson 03  
 Darrell & Cynthia Lashley 11  
 Ambros & Rubie Archie 14  
 Bryan & Tami Fields 14  
 Frank & Diana Hairr 20  
 Jerry & Terry Spence 20  
 Daniel & Janie Cockman 28

Did we miss a birthday or anniversary? Let us know!  
[office@tabernaclemethodist.com](mailto:office@tabernaclemethodist.com)