



From the Pastor

A “cliff-hanger” is defined as:
1) an adventure series or melodrama; specially one presented in installments each ending in suspense; 2) a contest whose

outcome is in doubt up to the very end: a suspenseful situation.¹

My favorite “cliff-hanger” on TV was the old, and very campy, Batman series. The show always ended each week with Batman and Robin in a predicament from which you couldn’t see any means of escape. Then the announcer would heighten the tension with questions of impending doom for the heroic duo, and say “*tune in next week, same Bat time, same Bat channel*”. And I always did.

Cliff-hangers are great for TV or the movies, but not so great for life itself. Cliff-hangers in life often create stress; which is not healthy physically, mentally, or spiritually.

The first “cliff-hanger” occurred in the very beginning, in the Garden of Eden, when Adam and Eve ate the “forbidden fruit”.

Oh No! What would happen next? They should have died, but they didn’t!

God intervened with his mercy and forgave them. But, from then on the curse of sin would affect every life born. Ever since then we have been born at odds with God. (Genesis 3:15) Each one of us now have to deal with our own sin. Oh no! What to do?

The good news is that God has intervened with his mercy through Jesus Christ his Son, our Lord. John 3:16 / Romans 3:23-24 Everyone who confesses their sins, and believes in him, is forgiven. I John 1:9

Unfortunately, the church itself is not exempt from this conflict. We have debated matters as eternally important as the deity of Christ, or as trivial as the color of the carpet.

The United Methodist Church, as a global denomination, has been in conflict for the past 50 years as to how we define ourselves over the issue of human sexuality. This ongoing conflict has created a recurring “cliff-hanger” every four years at General Conference. And this year, they’ve called for a “special General Conference” to meet in St. Louis, Missouri, from February 23-26, to try to resolve the issue.

And it’s another cliff-hanger. No one really knows what the “resolve” will be. What “the way forward” will be? The news media will be all over it (heads-up!) We need to be in prayer for it and informed about it. There are links for more information on the subject in this newsletter. We also have materials in the church office.

Of course, there is someone who does already know what will happen – the Lord. The Bible says: “*Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the LORD’s purpose that prevails.*” (Proverbs 19:21) God already knows what is going to happen and how he will lead his faithful through it. We just need to remain faithful and follow him.

I also find comfort in the old language of the former Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren churches liturgy for baptism, which begins: “*The church is of God, and will be preserved for all time...*” (UM Hymnal, pg. 45)

What will happen to the United Methodist Church?
What will happen to Tabernacle? Stay tuned...

*Grace & Peace,
Jack*

¹ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cliff-hanger>



News you can Use. . .

2019 GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOURCE LINKS

For more information on the 2019 General Conference go the Virginia Annual Conference web site:

<https://www.vaumc.org/>



To follow the General Conference Session:

<http://www.umc.org/topics/general-conference-2019-special-session>

For a more conservative perspective you can go to "Good News" at:

tlambrecht@goodnewsmag.org

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY and **"SOUP"ER BOWL LUNCH** on **Sunday, February 3**, at **12:15 p.m.** in the **Fellowship Hall**. Remember to wear your **team colors** and jerseys to church on Super Bowl Sunday.

It's fun to see all the different teams represented; including high school and college teams. Then stay for food and fellowship at the "Soup"er Bowl lunch. This is a pot-luck lunch. So we ask everyone who is coming to sign up to bring a crock-pot of soup, or a side dish. There will be monetary voting for which team you want to win the Super Bowl, with all proceeds going to help the homeless in our community



FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE

DINNER will be on **Tuesday, March 5th**, at **6:00 p.m.** in the **Fellowship Hall**. The men of the church will cook

and provide the pancakes and syrup. We ask those attending to bring a pound of cooked meat, or other sides to go with the meal. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex of the church prior to the dinner.

PiN Lunch – March 16 – Meet in the kitchen at 10:00 to prepare bags of food for the homeless.



"SOUP'ER BOWL SUNDAY LUNCH – February 3rd. 12:15 p.m.

Team spirit, team jerseys, a pot of soup, and non-perishable food items.

Super Bowl teams have yet to be decided. Yet, here at Tabernacle we are planning for the big day. Team spirits will be flying high and hot soups will be flowing freely. So, don't miss the traditional **SOUP'ER BOWL Luncheon** immediately after the 11 o'clock worship service Sunday, February 3rd. Everyone is asked to bring a large pot of hot soup to share. We will also need finger foods, snacks, and desserts. Beverages will be provided. Mark your calendar and join your Team Tabernacle for this fun event.

The **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE** will be held on **Wednesday, March 6th**, at **7:00pm**, in the sanctuary. This service begins the season of Lent, and will include the imposition of ashes and holy communion. All are welcome.



CONFIRMATION CLASS will begin on **Sunday, March 10**, and will continue through the six Sundays of Lent. These classes will be held during **Sunday School at 9:45am**, in the upstairs classroom above the church office. This class is open to youth in 6th grade and older. Please contact the church office (426-2396) if you would like your children to be in confirmation class this year.

CLUSTER LENTEN SERVICES will once again gather our area churches together for the observance of Lent. These services are held each of the six Sundays of Lent at a different church. The services begin with a time of food and **fellowship at 5:00 p.m.**, and **worship at 6:00 p.m.** The schedule for these services has not yet been finalized, but will be posted in the Sunday bulletins prior to the first Sunday of Lent.



Haiti Mission Trip April 22 – May 1, 2019

Isaiah 6:8

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”

And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

Is God calling you to serve as part of a mission team? All you need is the willingness to answer the call! There are many needs and God will use your skills in amazing ways.

Come for one or two weeks – CCH will accommodate your schedule!

Contact Mary Hall for more information.

757-721-7001 or mbhall1@gmail.com



BLESSING BAGS MISSION



Have you ever wished you had something to give a homeless person you encounter? One solution is keeping Blessing Bags in your car ready to give out. Blessing Bags are zip-lock gallon bags filled with a collection of items that can be used

and enjoyed by the homeless.

Come help us assemble bags during the Sunday School hour on **March 31st** in Fellowship Hall. In preparation for that day we are asking people to purchase a few items from this list. Bring your donations any time in February through March 23rd. There will be collection boxes in both buildings.

ITEMS FOR BLESSING BAGS:

Non-perishable Food

Fruit snacks
Dried fruit
Candy
Nuts
Gum
Granola bars
Trail mix
Crackers
Jerky
Bottled water
Energy drinks

Clothing

Hats
Socks
Gloves
Scarfs

Toiletries

Toothbrush
Toothpaste
Hand cream
Lip balm
Soap
Shampoo
Dental floss
Band-aids
Moisturizer
Insect repellent
Sunscreen
Wipes
Comb or brush

Other

Deck of cards
Pencil or pen
Small pads of paper
Fast-food coupons
First-aid kit



A LOVE STORY

February and March make me think about **Love**. February because of Valentine's Day and March because it usually hosts the middle of Lent and during Lent, I do soul searching as to how much do I really love Jesus Christ? Is he the love of my life or not? Can others tell I love Him? Do I know and show that I am His and He is mine for now and always?

I love a good **LOVE STORY!** Yes, I do enjoy the Hallmark movies where every plot resolves with a hug and kiss. But I wish they would show what happens after the kiss....do they keep dating and for how long; do they get married and how does that go?

I remember when I was dating Jack (long distance for over 2 out of 3 years), it was challenging and romantic all at the same time! We got to know each other through letters mostly. We wrote 2 or 3 letters to each other every week we were not together which added up to 47 weeks the first year we dated. I enjoyed reading of his love for me and receiving very creative expressions of his love in the mail...like a poster puzzle with an artistic expression of his love for me that I had to piece together and a photo album entitled "Man's Search for Meaning" with pictures of him in costumes and everyday adventures looking for what he finally found in Me! Awe...yes, it was so sweet. I still have the album if you want to see it. Dating, even long distance, was fun and I really felt like we got to know each other.

But it wasn't until I actually married Jack Davis that I took his name and became his wife. It wasn't until then that we became one in Christ and all that was his became mine and all that was mine became his. Before we were married, I knew Jack had a job but I did not have access to his income. I knew he had a car, but it wasn't mine until we were married. We started building a life together....in unity and with all the resources we both had to share.

As exhilarating and interesting it was to date Jack, marriage to him was so much better with way more benefits! But those benefits were just a promise before they became a reality in our marriage covenant. Consider this question during this season of love. **Is your relationship with Jesus like a dating relationship or are you fully committed as in a marriage covenant?** Are you happy to go through the motions of a relationship and getting to know each other on the surface without committing to a lifelong covenant that involves intimacy, sacrifice, transparency, provision and security?

Interestingly enough, a lot of us play the dating game with Jesus. Getting to know Him is fascinating until we find out He wants more out of our relationship. He gave His life so that we could live forever with Him. If we trust Jesus with our everything, He gives us His everything which is ALL we will ever need for life and godliness. (2 Peter 1:3)

Enjoy expressing your love for those dear to you around Valentine's Day. And consider how God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son so you might have life, eternal and abundant. Open your heart all the way to the love of God. He loves you more, He wants you more and He has more to give you than you can ever get for yourself. We all need more of Jesus in our lives.

Have a Happy Valentine's and Holy Lent!

Shine on,

Sharon Davis

Tabernacle Friend

The Tabernacle United Methodist Church



February / March 2019

Foundations in Faith

Growing up my family always attended a little country church two doors down, Dellville United Methodist Church. This was in a very rural area where many of my relatives also went. The church was older, built in 1906 to be exact. In fact my last name is on a few of the Stainglass windows paying homage to my ancestors as the founders.



As I grew older and moved away from home it took me many years to find that warm feeling again. In fact I didn't attend any church regularly for about 10 years. In 2000 my fiancé Bonny and I were determined to find somewhere we could attend and feel loved where we could also eventually raise our future family. We made multiple stops and finally came across Tabernacle. When we walked in we got numerous smiles and it felt very warm and we even felt love from people we'd never met before. After the service we got in Bonny's gold Nissan Altima and we both looked at each other and we said "well we found our church."

Now you know my story I have grown in many ways my first 19 years at Tabernacle but I still have a ways to go.

One of the most important things I have realized is God is love. Love is very powerful. It is powerful with our spouse, or family members, friends and even our enemies. When someone does something in a very mean or hateful way instead of returning that meanness or hatefulness and letting Satan grow and show himself, give that person love in return. When giving them love you are giving them a piece of God. Hopefully they will take it and let it grow in their hearts. If not, by not returning the unkind act with another unkind act the chain of Satan is buried for at least the time being. The more loving we can be the more we can have God in our presence.

It has been a blessing to be able to raise our children in such a loving church atmosphere. I pray that we can welcome and encourage others to have as great of an experience as Bonny, Desiree, Austin and I have had. So when you see others looking for that church to grow and raise a family, that smile and the acts of love and kindness go along way! God is love, and when we show love in our words and actions we are showing what God is like. Paul said we are God's Ambassadors, his personal Representatives, and he is making his appeal to the world through us. Wow what a privilege and responsibility!

Blessings,

Craig Zeigler

EMMAUS NEWS



The dead line for the spring walks is fast approaching (mid- February). If you are interested in attending, please contact Tommy Moore, Jack Davis or

anyone who has attended a weekend. The Walk to Emmaus is a three-day experience intended to strengthen the local church through the development of Christian disciples and leaders. The spring walks will be April 25-28 for the men and May 2-5 for the women. (www.tidewateremmaus.org).



The Tabernacle United Methodist Church

February / March 2019

JOL J

Jesus Offers Love Today

Thanks to all who helped with the Christmas play, year-end Christmas party and the pizza party at Brother's (thanks Kathy Wasson). Like all of the youth ministry events, the support of our church family is what makes them a success.

Snow-tubing!! 22 youth enjoyed a day on the slopes! Thanks to everyone who helped pull it off.



CHRYSALIS: This year's Chrysalis weekend was postponed. Next January, we will have an opportunity to participate again. If you are in high school (or college), the three-day experience is a terrific opportunity for teens to learn more about faith, experience Christian love, and develop a closer relationship with Christ.

Elizabeth River District Youth Retreat: The district retreat is scheduled for March 8-10 at Wakefield, VA. Information about the weekend has been passed via email. Please let Tommy know if you would like to attend the retreat. Chaperones are needed.

DNOW 19: Disciple Now is a local weekend retreat. We join several other churches to share fellowship. College leaders and musicians foster a weekend where over 80 teenagers experience a weekend of Christ-centered activity, including local mission work. This year, Discovery Church will host the event, March 29-31. **We are looking for volunteers!** Host homes, drivers, small group leaders and food preparation are greatly needed. Let Tommy know if you are interested in helping in any way.



Silent Auction: Do you have an old Tabernacle keepsake (plates, memorabilia, pictures) in your attic or closet? Do you know some business which would be willing to donate a card or gift certificate? Our Silent Auction will be this spring. It is a great opportunity to pick up some interesting gifts, and an awesome opportunity to donate some of your hidden/forgotten treasures. Please let Kay, Ronda or Tommy know. All proceeds will go toward this year's mission trips.

Mission Trip planning: Destination Unknown! Last year's trip to support Hope Restoration in Kinston, NC was a blast. There is room for lots of participants, so please consider coming with us this year. The trip is tentatively planned for late June. If you are interested in going or have thoughts on where to go, please let Tommy know. More details to follow.



Youth Bible Study: continues on Wednesdays. We meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 in the sanctuary. There is always good fellowship and fun. Bring a friend!

If you have an idea for a fun youth event, please let Tommy know!!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



February

Morgan, Olivia	2/1
Lovelace, Mark	2/2
Neal, Bobby	2/2
Brunelle, Nathan	2/2
Rowe, Jane	2/5
Miller, Todd	2/7
Bosley, Lisa	2/8
Wythe, Sean	2/8
Moore, Tommy	2/9
Zeigler, Desiree	2/9
Davis, Paulette	2/10
Brickhouse, Laila	2/10
Brunelle, Karin	2/10
Hobbs, John	2/13
Foy, Patty	2/13
Mowbray, Joseph	2/13
Palmisano, Andrea	2/14
Sharp, Shelby	2/16
Brickhouse, Christine	2/18
Lovelace, Zach	2/18
Inderlied, Ada	2/19
Hester, Lorna	2/19
Rechkemmer, Rhonda	2/20
Brickhouse, Gilbert	2/20
Brooks, Wesley	2/21
Kretzschmer, Laura	2/21
Karsen, Emily	2/23
Sharp, Allie	2/23
Eldredge, Stephanie	2/23
Lovelace, Ann	2/25
Henley, Al	2/27
Loftis, Derek	2/27

March

Foster, Camden	3/1
Sanders, Zoey	3/1
Morris, James	3/4
Senti, Sue	3/4
McNamara, Tyler	3/8
Moore, Lily	3/9
Orr, Lillian	3/9
Mowbray, Lauren	3/9
Brickhouse, McKenzie	3/13
Fisher, Deirdre	3/16
Lakin, Iris	3/17
Senti, Matthew	3/18
Cassidy, Connor	3/19
Habit, Ian	3/20
Flade, Sam	3/22
Gunter, Lois	3/22
Almberg, Alicia	3/23
Hester, Rebecca	3/24
Hardwick, Rebecca	3/24
Garcia, Sherry	3/25
Backman, Winnie	3/26
Senti, Nicholas	3/26
McNamara, Shawn	3/30
Greenmun, Reid	3/31
Pallett, Gladys	3/31



Volunteers

Ushers

February

- 3 Jim Shuffler & Brent Loftis
- 10 Shelby Nelson & Brandon Woodward
- 17 Rick Norton & Fred Campbell
- 24 Shane Lussier & Bob Hall

March

- 3 Mark Cayo & Shelby Nelson
- 10 Rick Norton & Wes Senti
- 17 Bobby Neal & Scott Willett
- 24 Craig Zeigler & Mike Garcia
- 31 Mark Lovelace & Roy Rechkemmer

Acolytes

February

- 3 Charlotte Shuffler
- 10 Logen Hallford
- 17 Nick Windsor
- 24 Martha Hester

March

- 3 Elisha Hester
- 10 Charlotte Shuffler
- 17 Logen Hallford
- 24 Nick Windsor
- 31 Martha Hester

Children's Church Helpers

(Leader: Jill Norton)
Families worship together first Sundays

February

- 10 Megan Reese
- 17 Rachael Strong
- 24 Carmen Everett

Children's Church Helpers continued...

March

- 10 Ryder Sanders
- 17 Charlotte Shuffler
- 24 Rebecca Hester
- 31 Austin Zeigler

Helping Hands (Nursery)

February

- 3 Jeffrey Windsor
- 10 Desiree Zeigler
- 17 Emery Moore
- 24 Eliza Willett

March

- 3 Sydney Lussier
- 10 Jeffrey Windsor
- 17 Desiree Zeigler
- 24 Emery Moore
- 31 Eliza Willett

Counters

February

- 3 Brandon Woodward & Sue Senti
- 10 Ann Henley & Jordan Dorsey
- 17 Marlane Brickhouse & Ann Lovelace
- 24 Ronda Loftis & Roy Rechkemmer

March

- 3 Brandon Woodward & Sue Senti
- 10 Ann Henley & Ann Lovelace
- 17 Ronda Loftis & Jordan Dorsey
- 24 Marlane Brickhouse & Craig Zeigler
- 31 Paul Russell & Craig Zeigler

Please notify Jamy Cassidy two weeks in advance if you cannot help on your scheduled date.



Tabernacle United Methodist Church

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8:00 Men's Breakfast at Golden Corral
3 Worship 8:30, 11:00 Sun. School 9:45 SOUPER Bowl Lunch 12:15	4	5 6:30 Choir 7:00 Council on Ministries	6 5 a.m. morning Prayer 6:30 p.m. Bible Study/Pioneer Club	7	8	9
10 Worship 8:30, 11:00 Sun. School 9:45	11	12 6:30 Choir	13 5 a.m. morning Prayer 6:30 p.m. Bible Study/Pioneer Club	14 Valentine's Day	15	16
17 Worship 8:30, 11:00 Sun. School 9:45 Spaghetti Lunch	18	19 6:30 Choir	20 5 a.m. morning Prayer 6:30 p.m. Bible Study/Pioneer Club	21	22	23 UMC General Conference St. Louis
24 Worship 8:30, 11:00 Sun. School 9:45	25	26 6:30 Choir	27 5 a.m. morning Prayer 6:30 p.m. Bible Study/Pioneer Club	28		



Tabernacle United Methodist Church

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8:00 Men's Breakfast at Golden Corral
3 Worship 8:30, 11:00 Sun. School 9:45	4	5 6:00 Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner 6:30 Choir	6 5 a.m. Prayer 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service	7	8 Youth District Retreat	9
10 Worship 8:30, 11:00 Sun. School 9:45	11	12 6:00 Finance 6:30 Choir 7:00 Admin. Board	13 5 a.m. morning Prayer 6:30 p.m. Bible Study/Pioneer Club	14	15	16
17 Worship 8:30, 11:00 Sun. School 9:45	18	19 6:30 Choir	20 5 a.m. morning Prayer 6:30 p.m. Bible Study/Pioneer Club	21	22	23
24 Worship 8:30, 11:00 Sun. School 9:45	25	26 6:30 Choir	27 5 a.m. morning Prayer 6:30 p.m. Bible Study/Pioneer Club	28	29 Youth DNOW Event	30
31 Worship 8:30, 11:00 Sun. School 9:45 Blessing Bags 9:45						

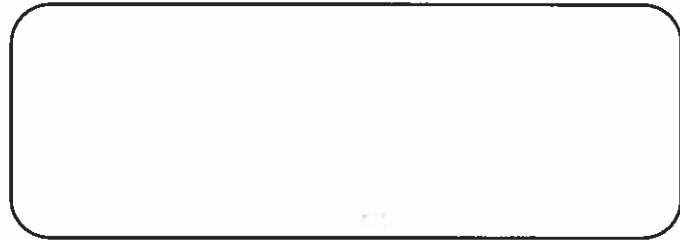
The
Tabernacle Friend

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Tabernacle United Methodist Church
1265 Sandbridge Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23456



This Newsletter Prepared Especially For



***Tabernacle
United Methodist Church***

*Where faith can be found
and
friends become family!*

Worship Hours
8:30am Contemporary Service
9:30am Sunday School
11:00am Traditional Service



Phone 757 . 426 . 2396

www.tabernaclevb.org