



From the Pastor

Hello Tabernacle Church Family!

During the month of September, we returned to in-person worship! What a blessing. While it may not be the “old normal” we have been longing for, this new way of being together has been beautiful and meaningful in its own way.

I am thrilled to be getting to know you and share space with you- finally! I must tell David at least once a week how good it has been for my soul to be pastoring this community. You function as a family and have welcomed us with open arms.

This has been a creative season in the church. We were thrown into circumstances that required us to start reaching others in many new ways. As we continue to gradually bring back in person opportunities, what lessons and pandemic silver linings can we keep in mind as we move forward? What have you learned about yourself and your priorities in this strange season?

I know that I have gained a deeper appreciation for human beings’ need to connect with one another. Until that ability was suddenly taken away, I suspect many of us were guilty of taking it for granted. I developed better practices around rest and self-care. I spent precious time with my husband and son when our busy lives suddenly paused. I’ve been put in a position to tangibly show my love to my neighbors by wearing a mask and keeping my distance to protect them as best I know how. With all of its tragedy and inconvenience, God has still managed to show up and show off in the midst of a pandemic.

Where have you witnessed the power of God working through these strange and difficult times? In what new ways have you been able to shape your perspective? How has God surprised you? Treasure these gifts. Write them down so you remember. Lift praises to God during your personal prayer time. Hold on to the lessons you’ve learned in a time that has been difficult, but not impossible-for with Christ, all things are possible.

As we move forward in new and old ways, let us thank God that we serve a savior who is always present, always working, always redeeming, always resurrecting. Let us look to Christ.

*In Christ's Love,
Pastor Christa*



News you can Use. . .

IN-PERSON SUNDAY WORSHIP

11:00 WEEKLY!

Praise the Lord, in-person worship services have begun on Sunday mornings, with some guidelines. The services will also continue to be streamed online, via the church Facebook page and website www.tabernaclevb.org



- Social Distancing will be observed.
- Everyone in attendance must wear a mask.
- Only one service to begin - moving to two services as more attend and spaces fill up
- Overflow will watch from Fellowship Hall
- Pre-registration is necessary 4 days prior. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DAFA72DA4FCC07-sunday> OR call church office 757-426-2396
- Personal Health Evaluation form filled out online: <https://www.evc.vaumc.org/open/worshipregistration/Index.cfm> (Please note: we are in the *Elizabeth River District* and you must scroll down within the District list for *Tabernacle*)
- Children under 2 cannot be accommodated. There will be no childcare at this time.



Sadly, the annual **Colonial Dinner** will not be held this year. This traditional event is looked forward to each year. Next year's will be the best one yet!

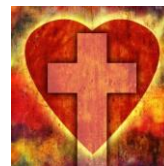
Tabernacle continues to support the **PiN Ministry's** outreach to the local homeless community. You can serve a hot meal on any Sunday afternoon, donate clothing or other necessities, serve breakfast to recovering addicts or prepare bag lunches.

The November PiN Lunch Bag Prep will be held **November 28th at 10 a.m.** (note date change) in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to everyone who has been so helpful with this service program during this crazy time.

DRIVE-IN/OUTDOOR WORSHIP WEDNESDAY NIGHTS at 6:30 pm - note time change!! this service will also be livestreamed and on Facebook live. All are welcome!

IMPORTANT INFO FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT OUTDOOR WORSHIP:

- Masks must be brought for each person (in case of emergency) but masks do not need to be worn while in cars.
- Sitting outside of vehicles (truck bed, lawn chairs, etc.) will be allowed, social distancing must be observed.
- **FOUR DAYS** prior to worship service, those planning to attend should preregister through Signup Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4dafa72da4fcc07-tabernacle> OR call the church office 757-426-2396
- No person who has symptoms of COVID-19, has been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, or is waiting for a test due to symptoms will be allowed to attend any service on church grounds.
- All are encouraged to bring their own communion elements (bread, juice) to be blessed from the stage and taken within your vehicle.
- No paper materials will be handed out at services. A church bulletin will be made available in the weekly email newsletter and accessible on the church Facebook page.
- Offering drop boxes will be placed at entrance and exit of parking lots. Online giving is still encouraged.



If you would like to "activate" the PRAYER TREE, contact Jane Smith at janesathome@cox.net or text 406-3084



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES:

The Tabernacle Mission Committee is planning a day long service project for **Saturday, October 11th**. We are looking for a group of willing volunteers to do yard work for Cindy Heim and her

family. Cindy is Ellen Heim's daughter.

We will carpool from the church parking lot, leaving at 8:00 am, to travel to the Heim house in Edenton, N.C. Lunch will be provided.

The project is to reclaim the yard from the seriously encroaching kudzu and other unwanted growth. We will need at least one pickup truck to haul debris to a local dump site. All volunteers should bring tools such as clippers and loppers if possible, as well as gloves. We can also use some larger yard tools. We will use the church van or you can drive independently.

Please contact Mary Hall (mbhall1@gmail.com) or Tommy Moore (moorescode@cox.net) if you are available to join our team!

GROUPS MEETING ONLINE – CALL THE CHURCH AND JOIN THEM:

- Sunday mornings: 9:45 a.m. Middle School Sunday School
- Sunday mornings: 9:30 a.m. Adult Friendship Small Group (Zoom)
- Thursday Evenings 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Small Group (Tabernacle Fellowship Hall) - Charlie Wiseman's class

Check out our website at www.tabernaclevb.org for great resources and information!



If you are able to continue your church tithe/offering at this time, please consider mailing in a check or giving online through our website www.tabernaclevb.org/give. Our ministries are continuing to reach out and serve our people and community - please give in support of Tabernacle's work!



TABERNACLE SAFE GROUP (Single Adult Fellowship Enjoyment)

By the time this newsletter is published, our SAFE group will have met for fellowship, fun and socially distancing games Saturday afternoon, September 26. Our last gathering before the pandemic was February 11 when we attended The Bay Youth Orchestras of Virginia Concerto Concert at Old Donation School featuring our own Eliza Willett.

Tommy Moore is working with us to offer our SAFE group an impromptu movie social in October. Scheduled meetings are bi-monthly. Our get-togethers are generally held during the day on Saturdays to accommodate those who work. The next regularly scheduled meeting for SAFE will be in November. (December is always left open for Christmas/family celebrations.) Although we don't have a theme as yet, we know God has a perfect plan for us! We are committed to rising to the challenge of meeting together while practicing social distancing requirements.

"Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do." John Wooden

Watching God work. . . Marny Sanders



Ripe Field, Full Harvest, Empty Hands

“The world has more winnable people than ever before...but it is possible to come out a ripe field empty handed”. – Donald McGavran



When we look around the world today, we can't help but agree with Donald McGavran. Donald lived between 1897-1990. Yet, his words may be even more relevant today. This world has been inundated with disease and with hate and fear, **and** it is full of winnable people. People that are sick, hurting, hateful, fearful. The problem is that they only know the problem, not the solution. They are all needing help; they are all in need of Jesus. But how will they know if we don't tell them?

Luke 10:2 tells us. ***“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest”***. Well, guess what? We are those laborers. But just going out into the field does not do enough. We can walk out in the field and yet, never gather the harvest. We need to be intentional to talk with people, to build relationships with people, to pray with people, to point out Christ to people and to be there for people. Winnable people are out there, we just need to go out into the field and meet them where they are and be the ones who demonstrate love. A love that points them and leads them to Christ, the Lord of the Harvest.

God Bless you as you take on the privilege of being a laborer in His Harvest.

God bless you and keep you every day!
Shane Lussier

Show Mercy

How bad would each day be if at the end God let us know everything we did wrong? Every bad thought, action, or thing we said or did to hurt others. Even if we tried to be perfect we would be so beat down from all those faults and mistakes. We are not perfect. Why is it so hard for us to ignore offenses against us? I know people can be mean, sometimes on purpose, other times not so much. God wants us to share mercy on others just as he does for us at the end of each day.

Showing mercy is a way of sharing God's love. If we kept a tally sheet and kept score all the time we would never be able to share that mercy. That anger would grow inside our hearts and eventually we will become a hate filled person. The Bible says in Matthew 6 : 14 and 15 ***“If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others your father will not forgive your sins.”***

So in these challenging times please remember to always show mercy.

God Bless,
Craig Zeigler





Jesus Offers Love Today

As I look at the heading for our youth page, I realize that the title has been there a long time. The youth who helped select the name are now young (-ish) adults, some with families of their own, all making their mark on their Christian walk. I am struck that the truth behind this message never weakens. Jesus does Love us today, just as much as yesterday and tomorrow. It does not matter how we have to go to school, whom we get to see or not see, or what curveballs life throws at us; Jesus is constantly standing there offering love and grace.

JOLT Mission Trips: There are some mission projects coming soon. As of this newsletter, we are going to Roanoke to support REACH on October 2-5. We are continuing the work on the Dale Street house, which is nearing completion. We are also heading to Edenton, NC for a daylong project at Ellen Heim's home. There are emails/texts out about each of these, so let Tommy and Mary know if you are interested. We are also looking at a trip to Ayden, NC in late October or early November.

Youth Yard Sale. We held several early yard sale events this year. Thanks to everyone's support, we made over \$1700 for the youth from three different events. Proceeds from these fundraisers help support next year's mission trips.

Youth Bible Study: Will be starting soon. Our goal is to have middle and high school students worship and fellowship together each week. It is always a fun-filled time with food, games and study. Be ready to bring a friend and have some fun. Dates will be published in the announcements.

Movie Nights Starting in October, Movie Nights return. We might even do a drive-in event to kick off the season. Come out and enjoy fellowship and maybe some popcorn. Movies start at 7pm.

S.P.L.A.S.H. (Swimming, Playing, Laughing and Sharing Him). Thanks to everyone who support the SPLASH events this summer. Look for emails, texts and announcements for fun fall events. If you are interested in hosting a youth event (high school, middle school or both), please let Tommy know. It does not need to be extravagant; just hanging out can be fun.

CHRYSALIS: Now is normally the time to get your applications in!! Chrysalis "Flights" (for 9th through 12th graders and college students) are Tidewater Emmaus events. This three-day spiritual renewal time provides an opportunity for you to learn more about faith, to experience Christian love and support, and to make new faith commitments. The next flight is scheduled for January 16-18, 2020 at Triple R Ranch in Chesapeake, **but is not confirmed.** Please contact Cathy Strong or Pastor Christa if you are interested in attending this event.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October

Powers, Seth	10/3
Heivilin, Vincent	10/4
Orr, Bill	10/4
Fisher, Kenzie	10/5
Chandler, Madison	10/5
Park, Ryan	10/5
Almberg, Tom	10/6
Bolt, Jeremy	10/6
Willett, Scott	10/6
Hall, Bob	10/7
Cayo, Mark	10/8
Cox, Austin	10/10
Shuffler, Jim	10/10
Shray, Robert	10/10
Oyler, Nancy	10/11
Foster, Martha	10/12
Wyatt, Anna	10/12
Cunningham, Stephanie	10/15
Willett, Caroline	10/15
Hardwick, Scott	10/18
Brickhouse, Logan	10/20
Emery, Brandon	10/22
Riggs, Richard Jr.	10/23
Everett, Carmen	10/24
Wasson, Kathy	10/25
Bonney, Vernon	10/26
Trypuc, Allison	10/26
Schweers, Carly	10/26
Wiseman, Charlie	10/27
Peters, Hattie	10/27
Brunelle, Rob	10/28
Land, David	10/29
Early, Isaac	10/30

November

Riggs, Kim	11/2
Woodward, Brandon	11/5
Waite, Leigh Ann	11/6
Bunting, Leonard	11/6
Lussier, Shane	11/7
Norton, Megan	11/7
Lussier, Sheri	11/12
Kash, Meredith	11/12
Hester, Chris	11/13
Griffith, Kathy	11/13
Reese, Melina Rae	11/13
Byers, EmmaJean	11/15
Brickhouse, James	11/17
Morgan, Patty	11/17
Hopkins, Lauren	11/18
Brunelle, Zachary	11/19
Mowbray, Mark	11/20
Sampson, Max	11/21
Shuffler, Austan	11/21
Cyphers, Rita	11/21
Hester, Christian	11/22
Woodward, Kathryn	11/23
Cox, Raygan	11/24
Hopkins, Mark	11/26
Kash, Tristan	11/26
Raehl, Rick	11/27
Kwiatkowski, Mike	11/30



The

Tabernacle Friend



The Tabernacle United Methodist Church

October / November 2020

Volunteers

Counters

October

- 4 Ronda Loftis & Brandon Woodward
- 11 Ann Henley & Craig Zeigler
- 18 Roy Rechkemmer & Ann Lovelace
- 25 Marlane Brickhouse & Paul Russell

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

The full Volunteer Schedule will be updated on the church website as soon as in-person worship services resume. Please visit <http://www.tabernaclevb.org>

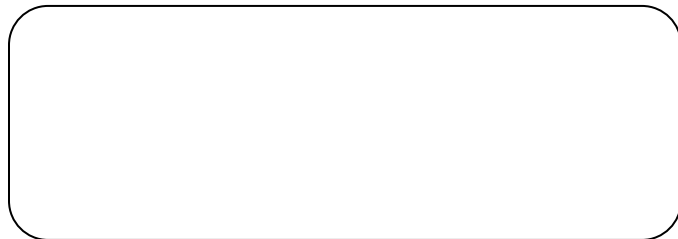
The
Tabernacle Friend

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

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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