



TABERNACLE UNITED Methodist Church

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September 18, 2020 ~ Issue No. 26

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ~James 2: 1, NRSV

Dear Tabernacle Family,

For most of my life, I have bouts of low self-esteem. Growing up, anyone who wants to engage me in conversation instantly becomes my friend. I craved (still crave?) attention to receive value and self-worth. Favoritism is certainly part of my psyche, but I tend to accept most everyone – who accept me, that is. Not a positive thing to be coming from your pastor, I admit. But we are all works-in-progress, aren't we?

The Apostle James is writing to a faith community made up of predominately Jewish converts to Christianity. If you keep reading further in this passage, James admonishes the Church to stop giving greater attention and honor to the wealthier members over the poorer ones.

Rich or poor may not be your special area of discrimination. Maybe racial differences are your thing. It could be drawing a line between spiritually mature vs. less-mature. You may not have any clear or obvious reason for weighing one person over another. But it happens.

I'm supposed to offer uplifting and encouraging words in these letters. However, I'm also called to provide the truth, difficult as it may be to read and accept. Whether or not you are a member/attendee of Tabernacle or another faith community, if you claim the name *Christian*, then favoritism/partiality/prejudice within the Body of Christ is wrong. But take note: I am referring to the Church, not secular society.

Treating one another fairly and equally, based on God's Word, should be a supreme aspiration of Christians, in the Church and at Tabernacle. Let's work on it together.

Daily Blessings,
Pastor Glenn



Bible Facts... The world's smallest bible can fit on the tip of a pen. Scientists etched the 1.2 million letters of the Old Testament on a tiny silicone disk, which they call the Nano Bible."

The world's largest Bible weighs 1,094 pounds. It was built by Louis Waynai in 1930, the book is

Many high risk folks are social distancing, here are 4 ways you can stay socially connected

- 1) **Learn the new technology** - FaceTime, Zoom, Skype, Facebook and lots more. All sorts of online options exist to talk with family and friends. You don't have to be tech-savvy, just stick to the basics. Ask a neighbor, your kids or grandkids for help and a quick tutorial.
- 2) **Stay active in your Community from home** - Many organizations: nonprofits, your church, local missions and political parties rely on volunteers to make phone calls. You can do this community activity from home.
- 3) **Go on a "News Diet"** - Limit watching to one news update in the morning, then check in again at night. Don't stay with it all evening, 30-60 a day minutes is plenty.
- 4) **Reach out to Family and Friends** - Stay in touch with the people close to you, especially those who are social distancing too. Social distancing does not mean social isolation, and even a potentially deadly virus should not force us to be alone. Now, more than ever, people need to find smart ways to stay connected.



REMINDER TO TRUSTEES, SPRC, LAY SERVANTS & PASTOR: Annual Charge Conference reports are to be submitted **online by (this) Monday, Sept. 21st.**

Listen to the service on your phone! If you receive The Torch by mail and are unable to access the internet, you may call-in to the 11am service and listen via your phone! **Call this number: (929) 205-6099** give the **The Meeting ID: 981 176 2526** and the **Password: 779813.**

Shoprite cards are available by contacting Susan Scheyhing at (609) 600-7331, or find her after the Sunday service.



Prayer reminds us that we are not alone in our feelings and we can ease our own fears by praying for others. As we pray for our friends and family listed below, please also remember in light of the Coronavirus pandemic, the extra challenges that we face from time to time... fear, anxiety, economic hardships, isolation, & many other stresses that are unique to the times we live in.

- Pastor Glenn & Family
- Jody Cathrall
- John Dickinson
- Dawn Garretson
- Betty Wund
- Carol Cahill
- Ralph Genovese
- Flo Magee
- Andrew Wund
- Lyndsey Bolton
- Betty Church
- Betty Carlton
- Tandi Ankrum
- Tom Ankrum
- Jay Spori
- Cathy Oney
- Cass Pascali
- Mr. Phil Breden, Sr.
- Buddy Halbruner
- Steve Brown
- Braden Brojakowski
- Margie Katity (knees)
- Mary Still (pneumonia)

Prayer for those who have lost loved ones

- Janis Halbruner & Family
- The Chinn Family
- Bill Stahl & family
- Elizabeth Bailey & Family
- Flo Magee and Family
- The family of Mary Mason
- Jackie Matkowski & Family

Covid Related Requests

- The Lords protection over those attending services at church
- Pray for an effective Covid-19 vaccine soon
- Wisdom for leaders in Local & Federal Government
- Basic Blessing workers and distributions during Covid-19

Those in Shut In & Convalescent Care

- Court House Center: Carol Cahill
- Wesley Manor: Shirley Rutherford & Shirley Halbruner
- Pitman Manor: Edna Dickinson
- Victoria Commons: Mary Still

Those that live alone: Doris Raker, Ella Elliott, John Leo, Ernie Long, Bob Jenkins, Alice Fuddy, Steve Brown and others who remain anonymous.



HOW DO I GIVE MY OFFERING?

If you choose to mail your church offering, please send to our Treasurer's Home Office at: T.U.M.C.

C/O Marjorie Katity, 115 Aspen Dr., Swainton, NJ 08210

CHURCH HUMOR - Six-year old Angie and her four-year old brother Joel were sitting together during church services. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had enough. 'You're not supposed to talk out loud in church.' Why? Who's going to stop me?' Joel asked. Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, 'See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers!'

The Next Step of Re-Opening!

Dear Church Family,

As we continue to deal with COVID-19, we will reopen the gym area of Michael Hall for meetings of certain groups. These groups include the men's Wednesday morning prayer group, the Wednesday evening prayer group, the Trustees, the Finance Committee, the Missions Committee, the UMW, the UMM, the Administrative Board, Good News Junction, the Remnants Bible study, the SPRC, and Sunday School.

If your group decides to resume meeting, they must adhere to certain guidelines. Group members must wear masks and must practice social distancing (at least six feet apart from each other). Group leaders should keep attendance for Covid tracing purposes. They must also clean-up and sanitize all areas used after the meeting.

If your group plans to resume meeting in the gym, please let Margie know the date and time so we can keep track of who's using the building.

In Christ, Pastor Glenn Scheyhing
Al Mortensen, Trustee