

# *September Newsletter*

*2015*

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## *Tabor Church*



- To have a Christ-centered clergy and laity partnership
- To have Bible centered preaching with real life application
- To have Christian education opportunities for all ages
- To encourage a personal commitment to Christ by serving and caring for others

I'm very proud of the hard work of the vision team to come up with the 4 core values of Tabor Church. Great job team! As I announced this past Sunday, these values will be very important as we move forward as a congregation. If these are the core values of Tabor, many future decisions will be based on these values. I encourage each of you to reflect and pray about these values. The leadership team is using these values as we make decisions and it's important that you step forward if you feel these do not accurately reflect Tabor. Everyone's feedback is VERY important.

On Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, the leadership team met with Bill Miller. Bill is a former UCC pastor with 21 years of experience. Bill has been with two congregations who challenged their denominational affiliation. One church stayed with the UCC and one left. I invited Bill to our leadership meeting to educate the leadership team on how we assist the congregation to make a fact based decision about our denominational standing. As I've mentioned before, this is a decision that we must make prior to calling a Pastor. Our 4 core values hung on the wall as we discussed many topics with Bill. At one point during the meeting, Bill brought our attention to the 4 core values. In his opinion those values represented a Bible based or Evangelical church. I found this statement very interesting because our congregation has been drawn to Bible based and Evangelical ministers. Both Pastor Didden and Bryan Stevenson have those backgrounds. Jan Wentsler asked Bill if we could find a UCC minister who aligned with our 4 core values....his answer...highly unlikely. Bill informed us that those types of values are not being taught at UCC seminaries. We have some large undertakings in front of us.

*from (Bryan Haag cont'd)*

The Denominational decisions is one which affects our ability to modify our constitution. Both require a congregational vote. We also have 3 membership lists that must be reviewed and integrated into one master list. My friends, none of this has been easy and it doesn't get any easier. I am thankful to everyone who has been supportive and involved. I am especially thankful for Ed and Claire.

My article only scratches the surface of decisions that need to be made and hours of meetings that have been had. I encourage you to talk to anyone on the leadership team or Ed or Claire. As always, anyone is welcome at our meetings.

Keep praying,  
Bryan



3 GABY HAAG  
6 GAYLE KREIDER  
25 BERT KREIDER

# RED ROSE RINGERS

RENEE HAAG

As of now I will continue to move forward hoping that the Red Rose Ringers will start practices on Monday September 14 at 7pm.

I want to say thank you to Pastor Ed Tucker for volunteering to help out but I still need 1 or 2 people in order to continue this ministry. I have laid this troubling issue in God's hands and I am asking you to lift this up in prayer; that a miracle may happen in the next few weeks and a couple people will step up and join the bell choir so that we can continue glorifying God with our music.

Continue to pray and hopefully I will see our ringers for practice on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Renee Haag



## TABOR FAMILY

## PASTOR TUCKER

There's a hymn that declares, "There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place." Over the weeks that we have been sharing there is the discovery of this Spirit moving and being shared. I was asked if I could do a series on the Holy Spirit, the third person of God. In the following weeks we will be-  
ing to share from the pulpit the presence and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Someone said, "Holy Spirit is the personal communication which God alone can give to each of us. The Holy Spirit is the fullness and joy of God. It is difficult to speak of these things. We have to babble like children, but at least, like children, we can say over and over again, tirelessly, "Spirit of God, reveal yourself to me your child."

In preparation for this series I would ask each of us to be in prayer and read Galatians 5, 1 Corinthians 12, Romans 8 and John 14.

As Christians, Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 12:7, "Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good."

My prayer for all is that we will discover our Spirit's gift/fruit and be sharing it for the common good, the body of Christ, known as Tabor.

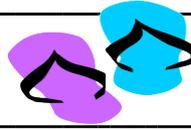
Pastor Tucker



# SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	W
		1	2 Noon Mea
6 Christian Education,9am Worship,10am	7 Office Closed 	8	9 Choir,7pm
13 Christian Education,9am Worship,10am Prayer Chain Meet- ing,11:30am	14 Scouts,6pm Bells, 7pm	15	16 Choir,7pm
20 Christian Education,9am Worship,10am	21 Scouts,6pm Worship Team Meet- ing,6pm Bells,7pm	22	23 Choir,7pm
27 Christian Education,9am Worship,10am	28 Scouts,6pm Bells,7pm	29	30 Choir,7pm

# BER 2015



<b>Ved</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
1	3	4 First Friday Art Walk,5pm-7pm	5
n	10	11	12
a	17	18 Deadline for newsletter article	19
t	24	25	26
t			

Last month I introduced everyone to our first minister Rev. Frederick Casimir Mueller. This month I'd like to talk about our second minister Rev. John Conrad Bucher. Rev. Bucher was born June 13, 1730 in Schaffhausen, Switzerland. Rev. Bucher studied for the ministry at the University of Marburg from July 1752 to April 1755. Soon after his attendance at the University of Marburg we find Rev. Bucher in the service of the Dutch military. On April 11, 1758 Rev. Bucher was commissioned Ensign in the Pennsylvania Regiment. He served in the French and Indian War and also fought in Pontiac's Conspiracy. Rev. Bucher resigned from the army in the spring of 1765.

While in the military, Rev. Bucher served several congregations in Cumberland and Dauphin Counties. In 1768 he began his pastorate at Tabor Church along with four other congregations. Soon after Rev. Bucher started his pastorate, Tabor erected a stone wall around the church in 1773. Also in that year we meet our first reference of Tabor's Parochial School.

Also during Rev. Bucher's pastorate the Revolutionary War began. A large number of men from Lebanon enlisted for military service including 20 from Tabor Church, Rev. Bucher being among them. During the war Tabor Church housed roughly 200 Hessian POW's and it is said that during the building of our 1914 addition, they found the grave of three Hessian soldier's in Tabor's Cemetery No. 1.

One final major event occurred during Rev. Bucher's pastorate. On March 8, 1780 Tabor purchased the land on which the current church sits on for 30 pounds of Pennsylvania money.

On August 15, 1780 Rev. Bucher was in Annville performing a wedding ceremony. During the wedding Rev. Bucher died of a heart attack. So much loved was Rev. Bucher that they placed his body on a bier and the men carried Rev. Bucher from Annville to Tabor for burial, a distance of six miles. A funeral was held for him outside the church because the number of people that arrived was too large for Tabor to hold. In studying the life of Rev. Bucher I have found him to be a highly educated man who was devoted to the service of Christ and the building of His Kingdom. Rev. Bucher's grave is marked with a stone engraved with a crown.

## TABOR

## CLAIRE YOUNG

Even though I don't have school aged children anymore, there is something about September that forces us to readjust our schedules. Dinner times get back to a reasonable hour, rather than the relaxed "whenever" that happens during summer. Reading books late into the evening simply because it's still light outside starts to change to television watching inside as everyone's favorite series begins a new season.

The congregational calendar has those same rhythms. You've seen announcements about music rehearsals beginning again after summer break. And at Tabor, we are bringing back another traditional change; that of restarting Christian Education after Labor Day.

As you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, we continue to use the core values spelled out through the work of the Vision Team in all we do here at Tabor. Those values are:

- *to have a Christ-centered clergy and laity partnership*
- *to have Bible centered preaching with real life application*
- *to have Christian education opportunities for all ages*
- *to encourage a personal commitment to Christ by serving and caring for others*

The third in that list has led to revitalizing a Christian Education team. At the first meeting of that team, Myles Deaner, Jan Wensler, Renee Haag, and myself spent time discussing the past, present, and future of how we live out that core value. Two practical decisions came out of that meeting.

First, beginning September 13<sup>th</sup>, Tabor will offer both a children's and adult's session for Christian Education on Sunday mornings. From 9:00am to 9:45am, the children's session will continue to be led by Myles Deaner and Chris Barshinger. The adult's session will be led by a variety of people. We anticipate a variety of topics as well, from studying scripture, to understanding culture through a Christian view, to learning about mission, to application of basic discipleship principles. A schedule of leaders will be developed and posted in the church building. If you have a topic or study you would like to see included, please contact Ed Tucker, Myles, or myself. In practical matters, we anticipate the children will continue to meet in their current room, and the adults will meet in the room directly connected to the café (I've been told this is a former youth room). We will ask those providing refreshments each week to have them ready by 9am so that we can enjoy them while we meet.

*from (Claire Young cont'd)*

Those folks who don't want to attend the session will still be able to meet for fellowship in the café prior to worship. Of course, there may be some glitches in the first weeks, but we know everyone will offer grace to one another as we work out those bugs.

The second decision was to offer an evening study time again. We will begin Thursday, October 1 at 6:30pm. For now, at least three consecutive weeks are planned. Each session will be a "stand-alone" study, so no book is needed and no one is excluded even if you can only make one out of the three. It is possible that the Thursday evening study could continue beyond the initial three weeks that are planned; stay tuned for updates.

In another important part of Tabor's life, the prayer chain folks will be gathering for a brief meeting after worship on September 13<sup>th</sup>. We will be discussing ways to expand the reach of this prayer chain, and to find ways to be more active in our prayer covering for members, attenders, and those who have yet to know Christ. If you would like to be a part of this meeting, please contact Bev Johnson or myself.

In other parts of this newsletter you will read about the work of the Leadership Team and the work and decisions before us as a congregation. These are very exciting times to be a part of Tabor Church, and I am honored to walk with you in this journey. I continue to encourage each and every one of you to get involved, either through volunteering for a team or group, through regular attendance in worship and study, or at the very least, through regular prayer for those who are doing their very best to follow God's guidance. The Body of Christ needs each part to do its part; please pray about where God is calling you to participate. And be assured that I am praying for you.

Blessings, Claire

# *NEWS & NOTICES*

**RED ROSE RINGERS** - will start their 2015 season on September 14 at 7 pm.

**REFRESHMENTS** are available before services in the Café—and it's a great time to catch up with folks! If you are interested in sharing a baked good please sign-up on the table in the Café.

**TABOR NEEDS YOUR HELP:** New sign-up sheet for greeters is available for volunteers; September thru November on table in Café area.

**OCTOBER NEWSLETTER-** If you have an article for the newsletter please submit it by September 18. Submissions may be placed in church office mailbox.

**NEWSBOYS** are playing Friday, October 30 at Santander/ Arena. Want to see a great show while supporting Reading Berks Conference of Churches? For more information contact Tammy Bateman at [tbateman@santander-arena.com](mailto:tbateman@santander-arena.com) or call 610-898-7204.

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## SUNDAY WORSHIP

*10AM*

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