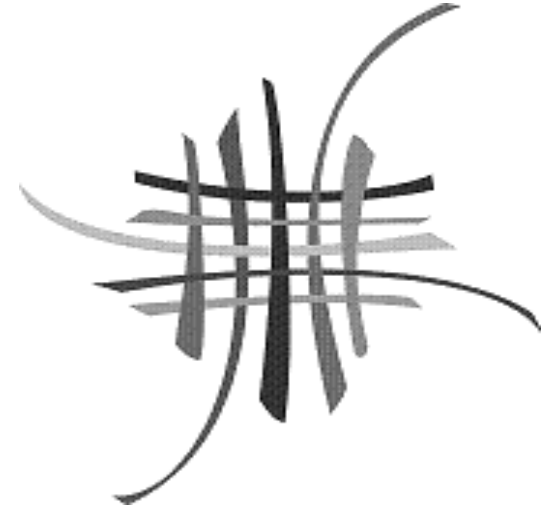


Tabernacle United Church
3700 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Address Correction Requested



Tab Connections

The newsletter of Tabernacle United Church
37th and Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19104
tabernacle@tabunited.org

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10 am-3 pm

December 2016

About TAB: Staff

MinistersTAB congregation
PastorKatie Aikins
Youth Pastor.....Meagan McLeod
Nursery Caregiver Amanda Martinez
Office Manager..... Asha Lindsey-Suggs
Minister of Music Pax Ressler
Sexton Patrick O'Brien

Prison Ministry

Our next Prison Ministry Meeting is December 6 from 6:30-8pm at Tabernacle United Church. Our primary focus is developing friendship and relationships with people in jails and prisons through letter writing and visitation, and collaborating with others to work for an end to mass incarceration. Our group is studying the book *A Church of the Second Chance*, by Jens Soering. We will look at chapter 2 at our next meeting. Consider joining us in this meaningful work! The Prison Ministry is a joint ministry with members of St. James UCC in Havertown. Speak to Pastor Katie for more information.

Council Corner

Megan McLeod, currently serving as our Youth Minister, has expressed interest in joining the church. Her work with the youth has centered on connecting their own experience with Biblical stories and wisdom.

The Council heard from Todd Koser, the treasurer. He reported significant progress in moving to different systems of recording and reporting our finances. Earlier this fall, Council approved the purchase of software specifically designed for churches. He plans to get a package which will streamline and coordinate records for attendance and giving as well as bills and other expenses. He then went over the proposed 2017 budget in detail. He had already incorporated some changes suggested by members at the informal budget discussion in late October. The budget is set to be discussed at the Annual Meeting on December 4. Council gave him unanimous thanks and praise for his work.

The meeting concluded with the announcement that Ken Gritter will join Council in the New Year. ~*Deb Burnham*

Advent Gatherings 2016

Each week of Advent there will be opportunities for folks to gather in a TAB host home, share a simple meal, and reflect together in prayer and on passages from the book of Matthew. Pick up a copy of the Advent Readings and Reflection Guide at the Greeter table and sign up to join one or all of the dinner gatherings.

About TAB: e-newsletter

The Tabernacle e-newsletter is published monthly around the first of the month. It is available at www.tabunited.org/news and also sent to everyone on the tab-news email list. Please contact the church office at tabernacle@tabunited.org to submit content. The January newsletter will be in Tab mailboxes on **January 6**; send all material for the JANUARY newsletter to the church office by **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30**.

December Service & Bulletin Roles

	Dec 4	Dec 11	Dec 18	Dec 24	Dec 25
Preaching	L. Megill Legendre	Heather Bargeron	Katie Aikins	Katie Aikins	Katie Aikins
Prayers	Deb Burnham	L. Megill Legendre	Katie Aikins	Susan Wargo	Katie Aikins
Liturgist	M. McLeod	E. Chevrier	R. Baldwin	P. Abernathy	H. Bargeron
Children's Time	Eloise Chevrier	Deb Burnham	Katie Day	Ken Gritter	Katie Day
Sunday School	L. Megill Legendre	Trudy Kawal	Geneva Butz	n/a	Verona Stern
AV Tech	F. Chmara-Huff	F. Chmara-Huff	F. Chmara-Huff	Chris Purdom	Peter Mowen
Quote	Sarah Hill	S. Wargo	P. Abernathy	Katie Aikins	D. Burnham

December Supporting Roles

	Dec 4	Dec 11	Dec 18	Dec 24	Dec 25
Greeters	L. Giaconne & D. Ahrens	S. Teegen & J. Teegen-Case	H. Bargeron & K. Culley	Ken & Martha Gritter	D. Ahrens & G. Navarro
Coffee Hour	S. Teegen & G. Navarro	Lynn & Andy Lees	K. Day & V. Stern	n/a	M. Ehling & M. Gritter
Counters	T. Koser & J. Gerhard	Susan Teegen & Sarah Hill	J. Gerhard & G. Rice	R. Baldwin & K. Gritter	Jean Erb & Sarah Hill
Recycling	Jim Gerhard	Lynn Lees	Sarah Hill	n/a	Deb Ahrens
Food Pantry	Ginny Rice	Sarah Hill	J. Gerhard	n/a	n/a

December Communion Rotations

DATE	CO-OFFICIATING	SET-UP	CLEAN-UP	BREAD +
Dec 4	Katie Aikins & Susan Wargo	Deb Burnham	Todd Koser	Barbara Tilley

+ Bread donated by Four Worlds Bakery, 47th & Woodland.; it should be picked up the day before.

December Tab.edu

- **December 4 – Annual Meeting and GEM (Greet, Eat, Meet) Monthly Potluck!**
- **December 11 – First of two-part Series on Islam led by Megan Gibson & Raquel Saraswati - Session 1: Islam 101** - There are over a billion Muslims in the world, and roughly a billion more misconceptions about the faith. This session will cover the basics of Islam, and will allow for Tab members to ask questions in an uncensored, open space. We'll talk about Islam's origins, sects, and the daily reality of being Muslim in America – with a special focus on the lives of women, gender-non conforming people, queer Muslims, and other marginalized groups within the community. Even if you think you know a bunch, come find out that there's more to know!
- **December 18 - Session 2: How to be an Effective Ally to the Muslim Community** - Interfaith engagement is an essential building block to peace and an important part of building any meaningful progressive movement. However, interfaith work can only be successful if all partners are committed to combatting oppression at its root sources: xenophobia, misogyny and white supremacy. Too often, well intentioned non-Muslims seek to ally with

Muslim groups in order to grow movements centered on pluralism and human rights – but end up instead allying with the “conservative right” within the community, making the lives and work of progressive Muslims more difficult – and at times, even more dangerous. This session will cover the struggles progressive activists face within the Muslim community, and will provide the information and tools necessary for you to define, empower and connect with Muslims who are entrenched in the fight against oppression. This session will also expand on the first session's discussion of anti-Muslim bigotry in America, and create space for discussion around how to support Muslims who feel vulnerable during this time.

- **December 25 – Christmas Day!** No Tab.edu!

If you have ideas or suggestions for future Tab.edu sessions or series, please contact Deb Ahrens at bookwoman_da@Msn.com.

Stewardship Follow-up

If you have not yet turned in your Time & Talent form or your 2017 pledge information, please do the online sign-up by going to <http://www.tabunited.org/stewardship.php>, or contact anyone on the Stewardship Team (Don Wargo, Geneva Butz, Lucinda Megill Legendre, Barbara Purdom, Katie Aikins, Todd Koser) directly with the information about your pledge (amount/frequency). Thank you!