

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

April 2017

Join Tabernacle in 100 Days of Resistance #100daysofresistance

- **Worship** - Sunday mornings at 10am we gather to worship the God of Life and Liberation, remembering who we are and *whose* we are.
- **Community** - Creating safe spaces for prayer, reflection, and support of one another in community.
- **Action** - Join with the Tab community to live out our faith in word and *deed*.
- **Share** - About what you are doing during these 100 Days of Resistance.

About TAB: Staff

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

JOIN US FOR *HOLY WEEK* at TABERNACLE UNITED CHURCH

- Sat., **April 8**, Noon: Easter Egg Hunt with our friends from Ark of Refuge! Families, Parents, Children, Young and Old, Welcome! Please RSVP on bulletin board in Community Room or to Pastor Katie (pastor@tabunited.org)
- Sun. **April 9**, 10am: Palm/Passion Sunday. Bring your favorite protest sign to church! We will begin our service outdoors with palms and protest signs for justice.
- Thu. **April 13**, 7 pm: Maundy Thursday Evening service of Footwashing and Holy Communion. *Joint service with Ark of Refuge.
- Fri. **April 14**, 6 pm: Good Friday Service of "The Seven Last Words of Jesus." *Joint service with Ark of Refuge.
- Sun, **April 16**, 10 am: LOVE WINS! Resurrection Sunday worship, followed by potluck brunch and music!

TAB Song-Leaders

If you enjoy singing with a group and leading the congregation in song, join the TAB Song-Leaders! We meet to rehearse at 9:15am before select Sunday services to add beauty and leadership to music and worship at TAB. Join us at 9 am on **April 2 and April 16 (Easter)**. Contact paxressler@gmail.com. Thank you for lending your voice! ~Pax Ressler

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 May newsletter will be in Tab mailboxes on **MAY 1**; send all material for the MAY newsletter to the church office by **MONDAY, APRIL 24**

Bible Study

On **April 5** we will discuss Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50: 4-9a; Matthew 26:14-27:66. On **April 19** we will discuss Acts 2:14a, 22-32; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20: 19-31. We meet at 5:30 pm in the Community Room. Contact Jean Erb with any questions jeanerb@verizon.net.

Council Corner

At our March Council meeting, we interviewed and recommended Lauren Giaccone to the Philadelphia Association of the UCC as a Member in Discernment. In addition, we will celebrate the ordination of Megan McLeod into Christian ministry of the United Church of Christ in our sanctuary on Saturday, May 13 at 4 pm. We can feel proud that Tab is helping to form and celebrate new pastors in our midst!

We had an extended discussion of worship, and focused especially on Palm Sunday and Easter. Expect worship outdoors as part of the Palm Sunday service and special music for Easter, prepared by Pax Ressler.

Worship Team meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

- May 18 with the Outreach Committee
- August 3 with the Stewardship Committee
- November 9 for Advent/Christmas planning

These meetings are open to interested folk who would like to help plan worship. You need to commit for only one meeting. So, do not hesitate to come forward.

Upcoming events that will be held together with Ark of Refuge Tabernacle, the congregation that uses Tab's building on Sunday afternoons and during the week, include:

- Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8 at Noon
- Seven Last Words Worship on Good Friday, April 14 at 7 pm
- Gospel Drag Show scheduled for Friday, May 12

We are exploring, through the Building Team, updates to make our elevator more user-friendly, and air conditioning for the first floor Community Room. Stay tuned for details. ~ Geneva Butz

April Service & Bulletin Roles

	Apr 2	Apr 9	Apr 16	Apr 23	Apr 30
Preaching	Katie Aikins	Katie Akins	Katie Aikins	M. Mcleod	Sam Steffen
Prayers	Lauren Giaconne	Katie Aikins	Deb Burnham	Lucinda M. Legendre	Heather Bargeron
Liturgist	Eloise Chevrier	Meagan McLeod	Martha Gritter	Deb Ahrens	Susan Wargo
Children's Time	Deb Burnham	Pauline Abernathy	Nicole Diroff	Eloise Chevrier	Todd Koser
Sunday School	Lucinda M. Legendre	Nicole Diroff	Geneva Butz	Verona Stern	Trudy Kawal
AV Tech	Genienne Navarro	Chris Purdom	Genienne Navarro	Fletcher Chmara-Huff	Genienne Navarro
Quote	Katie Aikins	B. Purdom	Susan Wargo	P. Abernathy	D. Burnham

April Supporting Roles

	Apr 2	Apr 9	Apr 16	Apr 23	Apr 30
Greeters	Geneva Butz & Deb Ahrens	S. Wargo & N. Diroff	L. Giaconne & A. Kent	Russ Baldwin & Lucy Miller	Jim Gerhard & Susan Teegen
Coffee Hour	TBA	TBA	POTLUCK BRUNCH	Barbara & Chris Purdom	V. Stern & E. Chevrier
Counters	L. Megill Legendre & G. Rice	G. Rice & D. Ahrens	C. Purdom & D. Burnham	Lynn Lees & Russ Baldwin	P. Abernathy & D. Burnham
Recycling	Verona Stern	D. Ahrens	Susan Teegen	Sarah Hill	Lynn Lees
Food Pantry	Lee Pugh	B. Purdom	Ginny Rice	Verona Stern	Jim Gerhard

April Communion Rotations

DATE	CO-OFFICIATING	SET-UP	CLEAN-UP	BREAD +
Apr 2	Katie Aikins	Ginny Rice	Susan Wargo	Lee Pugh

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

Pastor's Notes

Below is a brief excerpt from Pastor Katie's sermon on March 12, from the Lenten Sermon series on the Black Jesus. We hope you join us as we journey through Lent this season, toward the promise of the Resurrection!

“The color of bondage –in our context of White Supremacy, in our country, with our history –has been and still is Black. And that means that the color of Liberation is Black. It means that Jesus is Black. It means that God is Black.

Let the words of St Paul enter our minds again: Let the same mind be in you as was in Christ Jesus, who though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited. But he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness and being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross (Phil 2:5-8).

White Christians have taken all sorts of things literally in the Bible, but why the hell haven't we ever take this passage literally? Throughout our history we have been taught the lie of White Supremacy that Jesus did NOT take the form of a slave. How dare we imagine that Jesus was a slave? What a scandal to imagine God taking the form of a slave! That would mean imagining Jesus was Black and that God came to us wrapped in Black skin. And that would turn our world upside down...

I believe strongly that in our time, in our country, in the context of White Supremacy, that God chooses the particularity of Blackness in order to reveal the universal meaning of God's love. That's why Jesus' Blackness is redemption for all of us, no matter the color of our skin. Because when those in bondage are set free, all of us can be set free...

I recognize that the power of patriarchy and racism are still in me, and yet I also know there is another power at work within me. It is the power of God's liberating Spirit, calling me to resistance, calling me to receive my true definition as a child of God, and calling me to begin to seem y neighbors as children of God. The fundamental truth of the biblical and gospel message in our time, in our land, in our context, is that Jesus is Black and continues to call me out of my captivity into freedom. Let us allow God's Black liberating Spirit to move us and free us. Amen!