



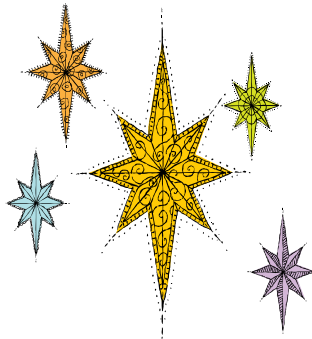
THE TIDINGS

A Publication from Tabernacle
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
January 2012



Epiphany

Today marks the beginning of Epiphany. This year, Tabernacle Church is going to journey through this Season with our collective eyes on the **2012 Anniversary Celebration on February 5.**



Epiphany is the time during the Christian Year when we celebrate God's Presence. Our scriptures lead us from the birth in a stable in Bethlehem, to the Magi who follow the light of a STAR. To see the Christ child. After they honor him with gifts, they leave us with the breathtaking truth that **God is Here!!!!** We take the five weeks of Epiphany to bask in the brilliance of that HOLY CHILD in our world.

"Arise, shine; for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." Isaiah 60

200 years ago, the light of Epiphany shined brightly in this congregation called Tabernacle. Within our walls, the first Global Missionaries were commissioned to go out into the world preaching a message of peace and justice. The bench, upon which these first Missionaries sat while being blessed, is displayed in our Historic Room, along with their story of sailing from Salem to Burma. Starting this Sunday, we will bring pieces of the 1812 history into our worship each week.

Epiphany celebrates light being in our midst. God is here. The light has come. We have an opportunity to spend this season **rising, shining and bringing in the light.**

Many guests have been invited to join us for the February 5 worship service. Reverend Liz Walker is our guest preacher for the day. Former ministers from Tabernacle Church will process with the choir. Leaders of the UCC from Framingham to Cleveland will worship with us. This is a time for our congregation to shine the light on our history and on our Mission and to extend our Extravagant Welcome beyond our walls.

Please plan to spend your Epiphany turned towards the light of God as it shines in the life and history of our beloved Church.
God Bless You
Rev. Laura Biddle

January Worship Themes

January 8:

Sermon: **Power**

Scripture: Genesis 1:1-5; Matthew 2:1-12

New Member Class at 11:45am

January 15: Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Sunday

Sermon: **God's Children Called as Prophets**

Scripture: I Samuel 3:1-10

Children stay in church on this day.

January 22:

Sermon: **Discernment, Decision, Discipleship**

Scripture: Mark 1:14-20

January 29: **Communion in the Round**

Sermon: **Cleansing the body; setting free the Spirit**

Scripture: Psalm 111 & Mark 1:21-28



THANK YOU

Saying Thank you always feels so good. As we begin 2012 I am grateful for:

The Choir—who devote hours of time and talent to glorifying God for our Spiritual growth.

Hospitality Group— who show up with smiles food and warm spirits, whenever we need them.

The Board of Trustees—with Chuck Parthum at the helm, this group cares for this dwelling place for God's people—The Tabernacle!
Thank you!!
Rev. Laura

Coffee Pourers

2012 has lots of openings for volunteers for coffee pourers. It's a great way to talk to people you don't know. If you've never done it, its easy. You just need to bring creamer, and some kind of breakfasty treat. The coffee's all made, you just have to pour it. If buying food is a bit of a challenge, you are welcome to reimburse yourself from the donations collected at the table. There are printed instructions to take home at the sign up board. If you have any questions, feel free to talk to any of the ladies in Hospitality. Thank you.



Come Sing With Us!!!



The choir is always open to new members. You can sing for a season, a month, a few weeks what ever works for you. We are very flexible! We are looking for all voice parts. If you do not know your voice part, don't worry... we would love to have you sing

with us.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding participation in the choir feel free to contact Valerie Peterson, Music Director at peterso_09@yahoo.com or connect with any choir member at the Sunday Service. Looking forward to having you in the choir!
Valerie S. Peterson



ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting will be held in February. Please stay tuned for the date of this very important meeting!



From Our Christian Ed. Director

EPIPHANY

Shalom,
At the start of this calendar year, 2012, we are already a month into the liturgical year, which began on Sunday, November 27, the first Sunday in Advent. We have met the infant Jesus born in a stable. The Magi arrive on Epiphany, January 6, in our year to date calendar. They bring with them special gifts, which foreshadow Jesus ministry in the world. Gold is a gift for the “King of the Jews”, frankincense is incense used by priests in the Temple, and myrrh is a bitter perfume used to cover the scent of decay at burial sites. These gifts play a part in the death and resurrection of Jesus. He is hung upon a cross that bears the title, “King of the Jews”. Jesus is seen as an alternative to the priests in the Temple where the ritual of burning incense is used to please God. And finally myrrh is one of the spices that the women bring to the tomb on Easter morning only to discover that Jesus does not lay there.

From the Magi who recognize Jesus as being called by God, we continue with the theme of being called by God to create a kingdom of God here on earth by serving others. We will hear stories of how other persons in the Bible were called to be instruments of God. Then on February 5, we will celebrate the 200th Anniversary of a great call that was answered by five young men and two young women to travel to the far reaches of the earth to spread the “good news”, the word of God, and the Kingdom that God for us here on Earth. Come meet Ann Hasseltine Judson, who at age 19, chose to travel with her newly wed husband to the shores of India; but ended up in Burma, a war torn nation, crying to hear about God and God’s kingdom of justice, peace, liberation, restoration and reconciliation. It will truly be a celebration of the ages.

Blessings and Peace,
Betsey



WHAT THE CHILDREN STUDY

This Epiphany Season, January 6 – February 19, is the Sunday school classes’ Session 3. The younger grades using **Godly Play**

Stories will meet the boy Jesus in the Temple. They will wonder about being lost and then found. We will celebrate Jesus’ own baptism by John the Baptist and then go into the wilderness with Jesus where the “Opponent to God” presents him with three opportunities to be King of the World. After these three stories about Jesus’ beginning his ministry the children will hear several of his parables and wonder about the meaning to them today in our world. The parables are The Mustard Seed, the Good Samaritan, the Great Banquet, and The Sower. The parables will take the children through Epiphany to the beginning of Lent, which ends with our Mardi Gras celebration and pancakes!

The older children will be following the lectionary and study the same scriptures that are read during worship. These include: **Genesis 1: 1-5**, In The Beginning, God’s call to creation; **1 Samuel 3:1-10**, an introduction to Samuel, a teenager called by God; **Mark 1: 14-20**, an introduction to the term “kingdom of God” used by Jesus in his ministry as a call to the people to follow God; and finally **Psalms 111** provides a lens to through which to look in a new way for manifestations of God’s living presence both in the world and in individuals and communities.

Teachers' Meet Twice this Month:

- 1) Thursday, Jan. 5 at 6:30 PM, dessert, tea and notebooks;
- 2) Sunday, January 8 at 9:15 am in the youth room for questions and prayer.



Calendar Items:

CEAG meets Thursday, January 5, 7PM in a warm office. We meet the first Thursday of each month at 7 PM. New or occasional members are welcome to join us.

Youth Group for grades 6 -9 meets January 8 and 22, 12 – 2 PM. Lunch is provided by parents. We are looking for lunch volunteers for these two Sundays. Let Betsey know.

Pilgrim Youth Fellowship with grades 3 – 5 meets January 15, 11:30 – 1:30 in the dining room. Michele Parr is our parent volunteer and brings lunch. RSVP to Betsey so we have enough food.

Safe Church meeting for all teachers, youth leaders and persons with keys to the building: Tuesday January 17, 6:30 PM for an hour. Booklets and forms will be available.

New teaching session begins January 8 and ends February 19.

- Beginners: teachers are Michele Parr and Laura Wrightson
- Grades 1 & 2: teachers are Vickie Dawson and Loren Labelle
- Grades 3 – 5: teachers are Gretchen Clark and Kathy Dougherty
- Grades 6 – 9: teachers are Anne Bogan and Joe Bennett

GUNSTOCK SKI TRIP WITH ROWLEY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ON JANUARY 14:

Downhill skiing, tubing or cross-country skiing, Google Gunstock for details about the mountain Leave Salem at 7:30 am to accommodate



those getting equipment, head home at supper time.

Cost for Lift tickets \$50 adults, \$40 teens and \$32 child plus the cost of rentals. Bring a bag lunch and drink RSVP to Betsey by January 9, as all forms must be paid in advance to attend.

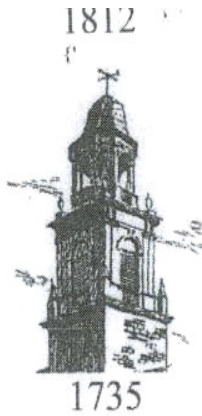
Christian Ed REORGANIZATION DAY

**will be Saturday
Jan. 21, to move
items from
Emerson Hall and
Prop Room to the
storage rooms in
the dining room.**

**Come join us at 9am for coffee
and goodies. We get started at
9:30!**



CLASSROOM CLEANUP DAY



TABERNACLE CHURCH, SALEM, MA
United Church of Christ

200TH
ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
1812 COMMISSIONING
FEBRUARY 5, 2012



**Commemorating the Ordination and Commissioning
of the first five missionaries who left this country to go to foreign lands.**

February 5, 2011

Morning Worship: 10:00 A.M.

Rev. Liz Walker, Preaching

Honoring those intrepid men and women:

**Adoniram & Anne Hasseltine Judson; Samuel & Harriet Atwood Newell; Gordon Hall;
Luther Rice and Samuel & Roseanna Nott**

**Displaying the original "Missionary Settee" and "Bassviol" used in the service which took
place on February 6, 1812.**

Historical Material on Display in the Bigelow Room

1:00 to 3:00 P.M.

Betsey Lutts Bennett reenacting Anne Hasseltine Judson in Emerson Hall

1:00 & 2:30 P.M.



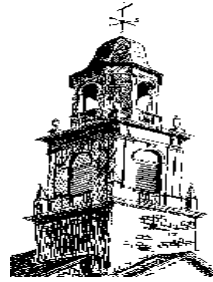
IN HAASRLTINE DR. MORSE, DR. GRIFFIN, DR. SPRING, PROF. WOODS, DR. WORCESTER

ORDINATION OF MESSRS. JUDSON, HALL, NOTT, NEWELL AND RICE
IN TABERNACLE CHURCH, SALEM, FEB. 6, 1812.

January Birthdays

The following members and friends are celebrating birthdays this month:

- 4 Joe Bennett
- 7 Holbrook Phelan
- 9 Abigail Clark
- 14 Jean-Paul Dionne
- 16 Julia McInnes
- 21 Jack MacLean
- 26 Cindy Burnham
- 26 Carlton "Brud" Lutts
- 31 John Dionne



Steeple Lighting

The church steeple is lit for the month of **January in loving memory of my wife, Mary Parthum**, by Chuck Parthum.

Dates available for Steeple Lighting

I have several dates available during the fall of 2012 and beyond. You may light the steeple in loving memory of, to celebrate a special occasion or to honor someone special. The cost is \$150.00 for the month. Please contact Liz in the church office to book a month.



Good Time Had by All!

Thanks to everyone who helped and attended the Tabernacle Dress-Up Christmas Party. Everyone looked "Fabulous", and a

good time was had by all.

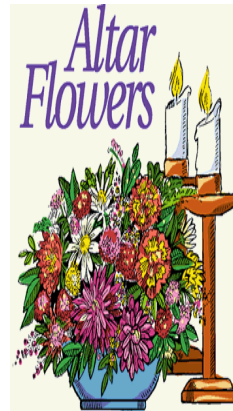
The Hospitality Action Group wishes a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year to the entire Tabernacle Family.

TWA

We had a wonderful Christmas luncheon at Barbara Bowman's home with hot cider and appetizers followed by chicken pie and a holiday trifle. Liz Nelson, Rev. Laura, Betsey Bennett and Valerie Peterson were our guests. Pauline Hurder won the "raffle" and elected to send the \$110 we collected to Joseph's Pantry along with our Christmas donation of \$100.

The January meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 17 at 10:30** in the Bigelow Room. Ladies are asked to bring their bag lunch with coffee and dessert provided. Jane Dionne will be the hostess.

January Altar Flowers



Jan. 8 2012: **Happy New Year 2012 to the whole Tabernacle Church Family** from David and Jessica

Jan. 15, 2012: **In loving memory of Judy Burge** by Ed and Chloe Burge.

Jan. 22, 2012 **In loving memory of Helen T. Bourget** by the Carter Family.

Jan. 29, 2012: In celebration of Allison and Jim Kilcoyne's 13th Wedding Anniversary.