

January 2026

THE GOOD WORD

Taylorsville United Methodist Church
4356 Ridge Road, Mount Airy, Maryland 21771

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Happy New Year. It seems like the past year has gone by so fast and was so eventful. And some of us can look back on the previous year and find a mixture of good memories and not-so-good memories. But as the traditional song of New Year's says, "let's raise a cup of kindness yet" (*Auld Lang Syne* by Robert Burns).

In the traditions of Methodism and other churches, New Year's was a time of renewing commitments and covenants, reminding people of the need to be faithful to God and to community. And while we perhaps prefer not to spend New Year's Eve or Day in church, we can still renew our commitments to walk humbly with our God and to walk the way of Christ together.

May the new year start and end well for you all. May 2026 be a year we share more kindness, mercy, justice, and love. And may the grace of God guide us all year long and lead you wherever the year takes us.

Jeremiah 29:11 New International Version

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



This January 13th, I will be attending the Board of Ordained Ministry's final ordination exam. This will be an all-day event held at the Conference Center in Fulton, Maryland. Please keep me and all the examinees in your prayers as we prepare for this meaningful career milestone. Please also pray for good weather so we don't have to move to the inclement-weather dates. Thank you all for your support and the opportunity to grow as your minister.

Pastor Josh



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Stephanie Brodbeck	18	Brianna Smith
3	Hearl Wright	24	Dean Parrish
9	Audrey Parrish	29	Krystal Sheahan

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

9 Christ & Amy Parrish

Men's Breakfast ~ All Men Are Welcome



Bob Evans

206 Malcolm Dr., Westminster, MD

Let Steve or Hearl know if you are coming.



MT. AIRY NET

January Needs:
Cereal, Pancake Mix,
Syrup, Soups, Canned Meats,
Toothpaste, Paper Towels

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

USHERS/GREETERS

January - Sheri Maring &
 Sharon Franklin

READER

January - Dee Haines

A Note from Anna:

Consider being a usher/greeter or reader for 2026.

Ushers/Greeters

1. Offer a warm welcome as people as they come into worship. Hand out bulletins as needed.
2. Usher for offering each week and communion on the first Sunday of the month.

Reader

1. Read Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, scripture, and psalter.

Let Anna or Pastor Josh if you are interested.

NewsLetter
DEADLine

February is:
January 26th

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Family of Betty Carey who passed away
- Family of Esther Weagley who passed away
- Audrey—pray for continued healing
- Cindy Watts needs prayer-health issues
- Sherry Comer Cox—surgery
- Miss Elsie has congestive heart failure
- Stacey - needs prayer for breast cancer
- Debra Gillen - weak from treatments, knee surgery in new year
- Sue Leppert's Uncle Dale, is recovering from infection, needs continued prayers
- Pray for our democracy, government and leaders
- Pray for those without jobs
- Helen Shepherd needs prayers - having blood work for issues
- People with colds, flu and Covid
- Bob Gillen - skin cancer treatments, Dr. appts.
- Vivian's friend, Barb Conaway has cancer
- Cindy's Harris' friend, Phil Anderson-liver cancer
- Pray we keep God as our focus in all we do
- Pray for our military
- Chris has improved pain & functioning
- Persons that suffer with seasonal depression
- Joe Martin-needs prayers
- COVID, pray for people who have it & suffer
- Pray for the homeless near and far
- Those grieving the loss of loved ones
- Taylorsville UMC & the United Meth. Church
- Pray for our World, Peace, Enemies
- For those in assisted living facilities, and employees.

**Joys**

- Birth of our Savior
- Holiday Celebrations
- New Year

Prayers for Service Persons

Austin Flagler (Coast Guard)
Sean Grimes (U S Navy-Tampa)

Thank you for your service!!

We want to keep our prayer list as up to date as possible. Please let the office know if there is a prayer request that we have missed or one we need to take off the list. Thank you for your help with this.

Scripture Readings and Sermon Titles

January

January 4, 2026

Epiphany, Communion

Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon Title: "Make the Mystery Known"

January 11, 2026

Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9, Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon Title: "Baptized and Commissioned"

January 18, 2026

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7, John 1:29-42

Sermon Title: "Naming Jesus"

January 25, 2026

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4, Matthew 5:13-20

Sermon Title: "Follow the Light"

NEW YEAR TO TRY NEW THINGS



Do you ever wonder who is in charge of what program or event at Taylorsville? Or do you remember being asked to serve on a committee but forgetting which one? In either case, please take a look at this year's Lay Leadership Report. It lists all the returning and new officers of TUMC. And if you're interested in helping out, here are some people you can reach out to.

TAYLORSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LAY LEADERSHIP REPORT - 2026

CHURCH COUNCIL

Chairperson: Cindy Harris
 Evangelism Chair: Pastor Joshua Gillen
 Congregational Care, Outreach and Fellowship - Chair: Gail Leyh
 Lay Leader: Stephen Iden
 Finance Chair: Dee Haines
 Recording Secretary: Anna Grimes
 Lay Leader to Annual Conference: Stephen Iden
 Ex officio Member: Pastor Joshua Gillen

SPRC Chair: Sheri Maring
 Trustees Chair: Steve Novick
 Missions Chair: Vivian Overholtzer
 Worship Chair: Pastor Joshua Gillen
 Memorial Chair: Glenda Harris
 Church Treasurer: Anna Grimes
 Financial Secretary: Susan Maring
 UWIF Representative: Maria Novick
 Historian: Vivian Overholtzer
 Children's Ministry: Maria Novick

TAYLORSVILLE CHURCH CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Lay Leader: Stephen Iden
 Lay Member to Annual Conference: Stephen Iden
 Recording Secretary for Charge Conference: Anna Grimes
 Church Council Chairperson: Cindy Harris

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairperson: **Dee Haines**
 Financial Secretary: Susan Maring
 Lay Leader: Stephen Iden
 Church Council Chair: Cindy Harris
 SPRC Rep: Sheri Maring
 Lay Member to Annual Conf: Stephen Iden
 Members at Large (with vote): John Eaton, Melinda Bennett, Sue Leppert

Church Treasurer: Anna Grimes
 Trustees Rep: Steve Novick
 Vice-Chair: Vivian Overholtzer
 Ex officio member: Pastor Joshua Gillen

STAFF/PASTORS/PARISH RELATIONS

Chair: Sheri Maring

Sue Leppert Melinda Bennett Ritta Jones
 Sharon Franklin Maria Novick Jeff Taylor
 Lay Leader to Annual Conference: Stephen Iden
 Ex Officio Members: Stephen Iden (Lay Leader) and Joshua Gillen (Pastor)

COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP

Cindy Harris Sheri Maring Maria Novick
 Sharon Franklin Glenda Harris Vivian Overholtzer
Pastor is the Chairperson – Pastor Joshua Gillen Lay Leader to Annual Conf: Stephen Iden
 Ex officio Member: Lay Leader – Stephen Iden

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair: Steve Novick (2026) **Vice Chair** – Sandy Wright
 Vivian Overholtzer Sheri Maring Gary Maring
 Sam Grimes John Brodbeck Jeff Taylor
 Member at Large: with vote – Earl Wright

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Chair: Vacant
 Pastor Joshua Gillen Stephanie Brodbeck Sheri Maring
 Susan Maring

TAYLORSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH LAY LEADERSHIP REPORT - 2026 Continued

CONGREGATIONAL CARE, OUTREACH AND FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: Gail Leyh Sheri Maring Vivian Overholtzer Susan Maring
Pastor Joshua Gillen Sue Leppert Debra Taylor

MEMBERSHIP

Dee Haines Glenda Harris

MISSIONS TEAM

Chair: Vivian Overholtzer Cindy Harris Ritta Wilson
Treasurer: Sandy Wright Dona Wilson Pastor Joshua Gillen
Secretary: Anna Grimes

WORSHIP TEAM

Chair: Vacant Jeff Taylor – Tech Vivian Overholtzer
Gail Leyh Steve Novick – Tech
Stephen Iden (Lay Leader) Pastor Joshua Gillen

MEMORIALS COMMITTEE

Chair: Glenda Harris Cindy Harris Sharon Franklin Patricia Lentzner

ENDOWMENT

Chair: Ray McConchie Dee Haines Susan Maring Sue Leppert
Melinda Bennett

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Chair: Teresa Leyh

SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

Chair: Maria Novick Dee Haines Jeff Taylor Steve Novick

Update on Audrey from Amy:

We did make it home for Christmas and are settled in. The recovery is very hard, mostly due to the brace and the restrictions. The brace shifts out of position multiple times a day and needs frequent adjustments. We do range of motion stretching PT twice daily. And that her pain is less with each day, is a good sign. Though her ankle has discomforting pain at times, hopefully from bracing or wheelchair positioning and that is normal.

I'm teaching other grandparents and dads to give care also, so that I can get a break and get out of the house.

We are halfway to the next appointment which is January 14 and hope to learn that her bones are healing.

All the cards, gifts and candies were a bright blessing for Audrey, and I cannot thank you all enough!

I hope to see you all soon.
Peace, Amy

Adult Sunday School Class in Basement Fellowship Hall ~ 8:45 a.m.

Contact: Dee Haines

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

In January, we continue to look at Enduring Beliefs of the Church. The apostle Paul teaches that humans are in a state of sin. The letter of 1 John expands on this fact, reminding us that no one can claim to be “without sin”. However, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, has become our advocate and the “atoning sacrifice” for sins. Christ’s defeat of sin on the cross introduces us to the gracious gift of new life. We are invited to respond to this gift through repentance, seeking forgiveness for our sins.

Our reception of God’s gracious gift of salvation leads us to “walk in the light” of new life. We walk in this way as we become disciples of Jesus Christ, following him with obedience, worship, and humility. The journey of discipleship will not always be easy – the life of the apostle Peter demonstrates the ups and downs of discipleship. However, we don’t have to go on this journey alone. In Christ, we are reconciled to God and one another, called into the covenant community: the church.

We meet at 8:45 on Sunday mornings in the social hall. We invite you to join us.

Adult Sunday School Class in Education Building ~ 8:45 a.m.

Contact: Jeff Taylor, Steve Novick

This class meets in the house at 8:45 for SS. They are presently looking at and discussing the Gospel of John.

Upcoming Soup Sale for Souper Bowl Sunday, Feb. 8th, 2026

Let’s get cozy with some homemade soup.

Information will be coming out soon.



UWIF January Luncheon

January 22, 2026 at Noon

Twin Arch Tavern

1001 Twin Arch Road, Mt. Airy

All Women are Welcome

Let Dee or Maria if you plan to attend.

2025 - SERVICE, FAITH, FELLOWSHIP AT TUMC





This
2026

*“May the God of hope
fill you with all joy
and peace as you
trust in him.”*

Romans 15:13



JANUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Information about Soup Sale coming soon			1 	2	3 9:00AM Men's Breakfast
4 Communion Epiphany 8:45AM Sun. School 9:45AM Worship- Facebook live/ website	5	6	7 6:30PM Choir	8	9	10
11 Mission Sunday 8:45AM Sun. School 9:45AM Worship- Facebook live/ website	12	13 Pray for Pastor Josh- Board of Ordained Ministry's final ordination exam.	14 6:30PM Choir	15	16	17
18 8:45AM Sun. School 9:45AM Worship- Facebook live/ website	19	20	21 6:30PM Choir	22 Noon UWIF Luncheon Mt. Airy Tavern See Dee or Maria	23	24
25 8:45AM Sun. School 9:45AM Worship- Facebook live/ website	26 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	27	28 6:30PM Choir	29	30	31