

January 2026

THE GOOD WORD

Taylorsville United Methodist Church
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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

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

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Chair: Vacant

Pastor Joshua Gillen Susan Maring

**TAYLORSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LAY LEADERSHIP REPORT - 2026 Continued**

CONGREGATIONAL CARE, OUTREACH AND FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

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

Dee Haines	Glenda Harris
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MISSIONS TEAM

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

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

Chair: Glenda Harris	Cindy Harris	Sharon Franklin	Patricia Lentzner
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ENDOWMENT

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

Chair: Teresa Leyh

SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

Chair: Maria Novick	Dee Haines	Jeff Taylor	Steve Novick
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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



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 HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2	3 9:00AM Men's Breakfast
4 Communion	5	6	7 6:30PM Choir	8	9	10
11 Mission Sunday	12	13 Pray for Pastor Josh- Board of Ordained Ministry's final ordination exam.	14 6:30PM Choir	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 6:30PM Choir	22 Noon UWIF Luncheon Mt. Airy Tavern See Dee or Maria	23	24
25	26	27	28 6:30PM Choir	29	30	31