



Tabernacle Baptist Church
13 Clark Place
Utica, New York 13501

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Marcy, NY
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January



Tabernacle Baptist Church Sunday Worship

7:00 a.m. Karen Prayer Service
10:00 a.m. English Service
11:15 a.m. Karen Worship

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Closed on Fridays

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Mark S. Caruana	Pastor
Rev. Daniel Calvin San	Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. James V. Davison	Pastor Emeritus
Karen Dunne	Minister of Christian Ed.
Michael W. Moore	Minister of Music
Say Wah Htoo	Christian Ed. Associate
Tammy Daly	Administrative Secretary
David White	Sexton
Michael Dunne	Assistant Sexton
Lewis Olivadese	Assistant Sexton

CONTACTS

Mail	13 Clark Place, Utica, NY 13501
Telephone	315-735-7534
Fax	315-734-9030
Pastor's e-mail	pastor@tbcutica.org
Office e-mail	churchoffice@tbcutica.org
Website	www.tbcutica.org

The Pastor is just a phone call away

Pastor Mark can be reached by calling him at the church office (735-7534) or at his home (733-4112). Answering machines are at both numbers to take your message when he is unable to personally answer.

Please call him when you, or a family member, are anticipating hospitalization, in times of crisis, when you need someone with whom to talk and pray, when a wedding is being planned, or when there is a celebration to be shared. He will also be happy to arrange a convenient time for you to visit with him in his office or in your home. **Remember, the Pastor welcomes your call!**



Happy January Birthday!



Aung Tun Sein	1	Tah Heh	1	Paw Htoo	12
Bi Bi	1	Tamla Htoo Lea	1	Thea Da Muint	12
Bomeh	1	Wee Reh	1	Eh Blu Wah Win	14
Bu Klet	1	Win Ban	1	New Year Htoo	14
Cho Cho Aye	1	Herme Linda Lawrence	3	Darryl Htoo	15
Dah Gwae	1	Isabella Moo	3	Baw Mu Do Htoo	16
Eh Kaw Moo	1	Paw Ser Lay	3	Evelyn Thali	17
Eh Leh Sa	1	Ser Lay Paw	3	Jeason Ang	17
Eh Moo	1	Silver Moo	3	Brando Sancrown	20
Eh Soe	1	Wella Ban	4	Samuel Htoo	20
Gay Paw	1	Day Kar	5	Paw Do Wah	22
Heh Tha Lu	1	Day Mo Hay	5	Amen	23
Hser Lah Paw	1	Thomas Watkins	5	Sarah Than	23
Htoo Tha	1	Ester Mu	6	Xavier Hta Gay	23
Kaw Lay	1	Hers Kha Moo	6	Ta Bo Bo	25
Khee Lar Paw	1	Ni Doe	6	Christ Abell	26
Lah Ku Paw	1	Yee Yee Aye	6	Johnay San	26
Lay Kler	1	Hser Ka Pa Paw	7	Pywe Meh	26
Lay May	1	Paw Eh Soe	7	Thu Lay Paw	27
Mulah Mulah	1	Christine Caruana	8	Hkee La	28
Naw Dwe Lu	1	Daniel Beal	8	Paw Bluet Ser	28
Naw Pay	1	Glo Na Wah	9	Paw Ta Shu Wah	28
Pee Mee	1	Htoo Lay Moo	9	Da Dar	29
Pi Pi	1	Alan H. O'Brien	10	That Lo Paw	29
Precilla Sein	1	Eh Taw Nee	10	Caphis Baw	30
Saw Kar	1	Honey Moon	10	Gideon Win	31
Saw Tha Gay	1	Zar Thu	10	Lucy Wah	31
Su Shae	1	Da Poe	11	Pahehlar Thart	31
Ta K'Taw	1	Shiny Htoo	11	Pur Lun	31
				Saw Day	31

January Special Events, Meetings, and Deadlines

<i>Circle 16 Bake Sale</i>	<i>Sunday, 1/3</i>
<i>Caring Corner</i>	<i>Saturday, 1/16, 7:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Mary Martha at Janet Barnes' home</i>	<i>Monday, 1/18, 7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Visitor Submission Deadline</i>	<i>Sunday, 1/18</i>
<i>Office Closed</i>	<i>Mondays, 1/4 and 1/18</i>
<i>Circle 16 at Dorothy Burlingame's home</i>	<i>Tuesday, 1/26, 2:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Annual Corporate Meeting</i>	<i>Sunday, January 31, 12:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Annual Congregational Mtg. Sunday, January 31, following the Annual Corporate Meeting</i>	

ထံၣ်န့ၣ်တၢ်လၢအခိၣ်ဒီးတၢ်န့ၣ်တၢ်တီ

လၢတၢ်ဆံးကိၣ်ဖိအပူၤ

ဃုၣ်ဒီးတၢ်ခိၣ်ဆံးခါ

ဃုၣ်ဒီးတၢ်ခိၣ်ခဲလၢၣ်

၁ ကရံၣ်သူး ၄:၁-၂

မိၤပုၤကညီၣ်ပုၤဒ်ခရံၣ်အခုအပုၤဒီးပုၤကွၢ်ယွၤအတၢ်ခူသ့ၣ်အသိးန့ၣ်တက့ၢ်ဒီးပုၤကွၢ်တၢ်တဖၣ်န့ၣ်ဘၣ်မ့ၢ်ပုၤအကလုၢ်တီလီၤ

တံၤသကိးတဖၣ်လၢခရံၣ်ပူၤသ့ၣ်ဧၤ

ထံၣ်ဘၣ်န့ၣ်ကၢၣ်ဘျၢထံတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်အိၣ်သ့ၣ်လီၤအသးဒ်ကဟ့ၣ်ထီၣ်တၢ်အုၣ်သးဘၣ်ဃးယွၤအတၢ်အဲၣ်လၢအဒိၣ်အါလၢအဒုးသ့ၣ်ညါပုၤခိၣ်ဖျိကစၢ်ယုၣ်ဂူးခရံၣ်န့ၣ်လီၤ

စံးဘျူးဘၣ်သုလၢသုမၤသကိးတၢ်ဒီးတနံၣ်တဘျီပုၤကွၢ်တၢ်အတၢ်ဖံးတၢ်မၤအတၢ်ပၢ်ဖျါဒီးသုအၢၣ်လီၤလၢသုကဟ့ၣ်တၢ်မၤဘျီဒ်ကမၤစၢၤပတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်အတၢ်သးခုကစီၣ်ဒီးအတၢ်ဖံးတၢ်မၤလၢ၂၀၁၆ နံၣ်အဂီၢ်န့ၣ်လီၤ။ ပုၤထံၣ်န့ၣ်တၢ်လၢအအိၣ်ဒီးတၢ်န့ၣ်တၢ်တီအတၢ်ပၢ်ဖျါတဖုမၤစၢၤပုၤဒ်ပကထံၣ်တၢ်လၢအရူဒိၣ်လၢဘၣ်ဃးပအိၣ်လၢတၢ်န့ၣ်တၢ်မ့ၢ်တၢ်တီအပူၤလၢကစၢ်ဟ့ၣ်လီၤပုၤန့ၣ်လီၤ

တုၤခဲအံၤ ပနီၢ်တဂၤဘၣ်တဂၤတၢ်မၤစၢၤကျိၣ်စ့အတၢ်အၢၣ်လီၤဆူထံၣ်ဘၣ်န့ၣ်ကၢၣ်ဘျၢထံတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်အတၢ်သးခုကစီၣ်ဒီးအတၢ်ဖံးတၢ်မၤလၢ၂၀၁၆နံၣ်အဂီၢ်န့ၣ်ဝဲ .၁၆၂၀၀၀ ဒ်ယွၤအပူၤဂီၢ်မ့ၢ်ဘၣ်တၢ်ကိးအိၣ်ဒ်ကအိၣ်ဒီးတၢ်န့ၣ်တၢ်မ့ၢ်တၢ်တီအသိးပဆၢထံၣ်ဘၣ်လၢပကဆိးကါဘၣ်ပတၢ်ဟ့ၣ်သ့ၣ်တဖၣ်အံၤဒ်ပကမၤလၢပုၤယွၤအတၢ်ကိးပုၤလၢပကမၤအတၢ်မၤဒ်အမ့ၢ်ခရံၣ်အခုအပုၤလၢအတီတဂၤအသိးလီၤ

ကတံၢ်ကတီၤတၢ်ဆၢကတီၢ်ဒ်နကဟဲထီၣ်ဘၣ်တနံၣ်တဘျီတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်ဖဲ အိၣ်ဘျံးနံၤ လၢယနူၤအါရံၤ ၃၁ သီ ၂၀၁၆ နံၣ်ဖဲလၢပကဟ့ၣ်သကိးတၢ်ဖးလၢအမ့ၢ်တၢ်လၢဘျီလၢၣ်စ့ၤခဲခဲအံၤ။ တၢ်သးခုကစီၣ် ၊ တၢ်ဘျီသီဘျီဘၣ်က့ၤတၢ်သ့ၣ်ထီၣ် ၊ တၢ်ကတီၤပၢ်ကျိၣ်စ့လၢနံၣ်လၢအကဟဲအဂီၢ်န့ၣ်လီၤ ပဆၢမ့ၢ်လၢလၢသုကဟဲထီၣ်သကိးတၢ်အိၣ်ဖျိၣ်တဘျီအံၤလီၤ

လၢတၢ်ပၢ်ဖျိၣ်သကိးသးအပူၤ ပမၤစၢၤဘၣ်ပုၤကွၢ်ဒီးဟီၣ်ခိၣ်ဒိဘုၣ်သ့ၣ်ယွၤအတၢ်အဲၣ်လၢအထူးအတီၤဒီးအဘျူးအဖျိၣ်ဒိၣ်ဝဲ လၢအပုၤကွၢ်တၢ်တဂၤအဂီၢ်အသိးန့ၣ်လီၤ

လၢခရံၣ်ပူၤ

သရၣ်ဒိၣ်မး ခရုၢ်ဝါန့ၣ်

သရၣ်ဒိၣ်ဒဲနယၢၣ် ခဲလံဘုစၢ်

ထံၣ်ဘၣ်န့ၣ်ကၢၣ်ဘျၢထံတၢ်ခိၣ်ဖျိၣ်

Stewardship Update

Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.

2 Corinthians 4:1-2 (NRSV)



December 21, 2015

Dear friends:

Tabernacle Baptist Church exists to give witness to God's generous love made known to us in Jesus Christ.

"Thank you" to everyone who participated in our annual Stewardship emphasis and made a pledge to support our congregation's mission and ministry in 2016. Our "Found Faithful" emphasis has helped us see the importance of being faithful with what God has given to us.

To date, our financial commitments to Tabernacle's mission and ministry 2016 have totaled \$162,000 or about 84% of our goal. If you have not yet made a commitment for 2016, please return your pledge card to the church today! As God's people called to be faithful, we look forward to using these gifts to fulfill God's call to ministry as faithful servants of Jesus Christ.

Plan to join us for Tabernacle's **Annual Corporate and Congregational Meetings on Sunday, January 31, 2016** when will vote on our final Current Expense, Mission, and Restoration and Preservation Budgets for the coming year. We hope you will be present.

Together we can reach out to others and our world as stewards of God's abundant love and grace!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Mark S. Caruana

Pastor Daniel Calvin San

The beginning of a new year is a perfect time to review our procedures for using the church building. We ask all groups using the church building to help keep the building clean and safe by following these simple rules.

When leaving the building, please make certain that:

- **The space you have used has been returned to the condition in which you found it.** All books, papers, equipment, and musical instruments should be put away. Any trash is picked up and thrown away.
 - **All lights are turned off.** This will help the church save money on our electricity bill!
 - **All radiators are turned down to the "snowflake" position.** This will help the church save money on heating costs.
 - **All doors in the building are close and all exterior doors are closed and locked.**
- **The alarm system has been properly activated.** *If the alarm is set-off and the police respond, the church is charged a \$50.00 fee*



When planning a meeting or event at the church, please remember:

- **All activities must be added to the church calendar.** Please check with the church office to make certain that your event will not conflict with an another, already planned event.
- **The church building is scheduled on a first come, first served basis.** So, please schedule your special events in advance!

Outside groups and weddings must receive approval from the Stewardship Ministry Team to use the church building. Please request a **Building Use Form** from the church office. Please return your complete Building Use Form to the office for approval at least one month before your event's date.

Use of Church Supplies and Equipment

- **Church supplies and equipment cannot leave the church property without permission**
Please contact the church office for permission, before removing any supplies or equipment from the church.
- **Lending of church tables and chairs:** the church lends out old tables and chairs to church members for special events (graduation parties, family celebrations, etc.) To borrow these items, please contact the church office. All tables and chairs must be returned to the church by the agreed upon date and time.





Thank you to all who remembered us during the Christmas season with food, cards and gifts. These tokens of affection are profoundly appreciated and contributed to a most joyous Christmas celebration at the parsonage. — *Pastor Mark and Paula Caruana*

I would like to extend a HUGE thank you to everyone in participated and helped during our Christmas Eve production. Many hours of preparation and planning go into to making it a success and we wouldn't be able to do it without so many people giving of their time and talents! We couldn't do it without you!

THANK YOU!! - *From the Faith Nurturing Ministry team. — Karen Dunne*

A special thank you to the people of Tabernacle for the beautiful poinsettia plant; and also thanks to the people who delivered it. It made it feel so much more like Christmas for us here. — *Shirley and Tom Watkins.*

Dear Tabernacle Friends,

It is such a heart-warming and uplifting joy to be remembered each year by you and by other congregations we have served through your contributions to the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering which made possible the "Thank You" check we recently received.

Your gift awakened fresh memories and deep gratitude for the years of ministry which we shared together in Utica and for the very special friendships which continue to enrich our lives to this very day. Edith and I feel so very blessed.

We continue to give thanks to God for all of you at Tabernacle. We admire, so much, the creativity and compassion with which you continue to fulfill the ministry and mission entrusted to you by God — proclaiming the Good News of God's love and serving the needs of others in the manner and spirit of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your very gracious gift. We shall use it for some special purpose which would not otherwise be possible.

Peace and joy in this holy season and always.

Jim and Edith Davison

Thank you for the thoughtful and yummy gifts that I received at Christmas-time. And a special thank you to all who have helped make my first year here at Tabernacle Baptist Church a most pleasant one. ~ *Tammy Daly*



Tabernacle's Minister of Music, Michael Moore has formed a small orchestra that he hopes will perform during worship and perhaps accompany congregational singing in 2016. Here is a photo of the group practicing on a recent Sunday.

Attention, all band and orchestral instrumentalists!

Tabernacle Baptist Church would like to have its own orchestra. We plan to organize after the first of the year. All those who are interested should plan to meet with Mr. Moore, our Minister of Music, in Thorn Chapel during second hour on Sunday, January 3. We need string players, as well as those who play any band instrument.

Piano Lessons will resume on Saturday, January 2 and Monday, January 4.

The Deadline to submit an article for the January Visitor is Sunday, January 17.



All Annual Reports are due in the church office by Sunday, January 3.

The Church Office will be closed on Mondays, January 4 & 18.

Caring Corner will be Open on Saturday, January 16 7:30 a.m.

Pastor on Vacation: Pastor Mark will be on vacation from January 417. Should you need pastoral care during this time, please call Associate Pastor Rev. Daniel Calvin San. You may also call the church office at 735-7534, or Duayna Kopiel at 865-8810, who will put you in touch with a neighboring pastor who will be on-call to provide pastoral care.

Circle 16

The next Circle 16 meeting will be held on January 26, at 2:00 p.m., at Dorothy Burlingame's home. The next Circle 16 Bake Sale will be held on Sunday, January 3.

Tabernacle has received an award! Tabernacle Baptist Church for been selected as the 2016 recipient of Oneida County Habitat for Humanity's **Building on Faith Award**. The award celebrates faith partnerships with Habitat and honors congregations that are advocates for those in need of shelter. The award will be presented at Habitat/Oneida County's Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner, Wednesday, January 13, 6:00 p.m. at Danielle's at Valley View. Look for more information in upcoming worship bulletins.



Notice of Annual Corporate Meeting

To all members and qualified voters of the Tabernacle Baptist Church of Utica, notice is hereby given that the Annual Corporate Meeting of the Tabernacle Baptist Church of Utica will be held on Sunday, January 31, 2016 at 12:30 PM in Thorn Memorial Chapel, 13 Clark Place, Utica, New York, for the purpose of:

- Electing successors to those members of the Stewardship Ministry Team (Trustees) whose terms of office expire.
- Receiving financial reports for 2015.
- Adopting the annual Current Expense budget and Missions and Benevolences budget for 2016.
- Conducting such other business that may properly come before the body.

Utica, New York
January 1, 2016

David Tomidy, Chairperson
Stewardship Ministry Team

Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting

To All Members of the Tabernacle Baptist Church of Utica, notice is hereby given that the Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on January 31, 2016, immediately following the Annual Corporate Meeting, for the purpose of:

- Electing Officers and successors to those members of the Ministry Teams whose terms of Office expire.
- Conducting such other business that may properly come before the body.

Utica, New York
January 1, 2016

Michael Dunne
Moderator



As we enter a new year, there is a cold wind of fear and hatred blowing through our nation. Politicians seeking the highest office in the land have proposed banning Muslims from entering our nation, a moratorium on refugee resettlement, banning Syrian refugees from the country, and monitoring mosques. Hate-filled speech has fueled hate crimes. A week ago, a Muslim shopkeeper in New York City was beaten because of his religious identity. In Philadelphia, a pig's head was placed outside a Muslim community center. In California, while Muslims gathered to pray in their mosque someone set it on fire.

Sadly, this cold wind has blown through our community as well. Many of our community's leading citizens are members of Utica's century-old Syrian community. Our city is known internationally as "the town that loves refugees" because of our successful welcome and integration of refugees from around globe into the fabric of our community. Nevertheless, even in Utica, a city councilor recently proposed an ordinance restricting the resettlement of Syrian refugees for two years.

How should we respond to the fear and hatred that has begun to swirl around us? **We need to remember who we are.** Our identity as Americans is shaped by our nation's foundational commitment to religious liberty. Freedom of religion has been called America's "first freedom." It is enshrined in the first amendment to our national constitution and guarantees us the right to worship as we choose free from governmental intrusion and interference. Our nation has also been shaped by successive waves of immigrants. The Statue of Liberty in New York harbor has welcomed the world's "tired, poor, and huddled masses yearning to breathe free" who have, in repayment, breathed new life and vitality into our country.

We also need to confront the fear and hatred around us out of **our identity as Christians.** When Jesus is asked what the greatest commandment is, he responds, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-39) This is not a new teaching. Jesus is paraphrasing the Hebrew scriptures (see Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18). The message is simple: we cannot fully love God without loving others.

But, the Bible does not allow us to limit our love and concern to those nearest and most like us. **As people of faith, our love must also extend to those who are strangers to us.** Leviticus 19:34 says, "When a foreigner resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the foreigner. The foreigner who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the foreigner as yourself, for you were foreigners in the land of Egypt." In Matthew's gospel, Jesus says that we will be judged on the basis of our care and concern for those who marginalized, in need, and suffering. In fact, he says that when we welcome the stranger, we welcome him. And, in rejecting the stranger, we reject him. (see Matthew 25:31-46) **The Bible is clear: God cares about those who have been driven from their homes, displaced from their land, and forced to seek refuge. The Bible is also clear that God expects God's people to care about those for whom God cares.**

Let me suggest a very practical way we can begin to combat the fear and hatred around us. Fear and hatred grow in the soil of ignorance. We root-out ignorance and plant seeds of knowledge as we get to know our neighbors of different backgrounds and faith traditions. The Interfaith Coalition of Greater Utica is sponsoring a series of **multi-faith conversations** beginning in January. These meetings are intended to help us move from being strangers with our neighbors of other religions to becoming friends and companions. **The first of these multi-faith conversations will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, 1605 Genesee Street in Utica on Monday, January 11 at 5:30 p.m.** I encourage you to participate.

The Bible tells us, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear." (1 John 4:18) What a wonderful New Year's resolution! Let us resolve to drive out fear from our lives and our community. We can do this in 2016 by getting to know those who are today strangers from other faiths. As strangers become friends we replace ignorance with knowledge and we allow love to grow and drive out fear.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Mark

The Visitor



Blankets Sunday *January 10th*

For many years, our congregation has received a special offering during January to support the work of the **Church World Service (CWS)**. The **Blanket Offering** is one way we respond in Christian care and compassion to the needs and hurts of our neighbors across the United States and around the world.

Because you give to the **Blanket Offering**, CWS can:

- provide **warm blankets** for families who lives have been devastated by a tornado
- provide **warm blankets** to homeless individuals and families in the U.S.
- provide refugees resettling far from their homelands the **gardening tools and materials** to build small raised beds for vegetables
- provide **sewing machines and training for women**, empowering them to earn an income and feed their families
- provide displaced families with **emergency food packages** that will feed a family of five for one month
- provide a dam that gives an entire community a source of **clean water** year round



The **Blanket Offering** is blankets and so much more. Every January, Tabernacle invites friends and members to **contribute to the work of CWS through the Blanket Offering**. We make this sharing opportunity available because every year we see many opportunities around us that call for a compassionate response. We envision a world in which people love and care for each other, and no one walks away from those in need thinking, "someone else can help them." **The Blanket Offering is one way we can step in, step up and find a way to help.** Won't you give generously on **Sunday, January 10?**

Meaningful Messages for Today



January 3
2nd Sunday after Christmas
John 1: 1-18
The Word Became Flesh

January 10
1st Sunday after Epiphany
Ezekiel 36:26-27 ~John 14: 15-17, 26
Finding the Miracle Within
Karen Dunne, Guest Preacher

January 17
2nd Sunday after Epiphany
Rev. Jerrod Huguenot,
Guest Preacher

January 24
3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Luke 4: 14-30
The Heart of the Gospel

January 31
4th Sunday after Epiphany
1 Corinthians 13: 1-13
The Most Important Thing

Hymn of the Month:
#81
"I Lift My Eyes to the
Quiet Hills"