

The Visitor



Happy New Year! We ring in “2020”, well-rooted in TBC’s heritage, and celebrating the innovative Spirit of the Eternal One which supports us in TBC’s 3rd Century. God spoke through the prophet in Isaiah 43:19-21:

***I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth...to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.***

We praise God for God’s provision: Those who went before us were willing to do a new thing—pursuing Historic Building status for TBC and planning for the restoration of the sanctuary exterior even when the way did not seem clear. **We are elated to announce that the Environmental Protection Fund administered by the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and**

Historic Preservation has chosen to provide \$600,000 in matching grant funds for TBC’s “Phase 2: Sanctuary Masonry, Roof-Water Runoff & Roofing Project.”

Stones and mortar are just tools of ministry, of course. Along with this physical-plant restoration vision, God has provided a vision of an enhanced program for our children and teens in 2020. Circumstances outside our control have caused TBC to transition from a congregation that was welcoming hundreds of refugee newcomers per year to a congregation with energy for considering what we are doing well and where we can improve. An important conversation has begun between pastoral staff, Karen leaders, Christian Education staff, and the Faith Nurturing Team about tweaks in our programming that will reinforce the faith formation we all want for our young people. We look forward to including more of our Bible-School-trained, seminary-trained, and parenting Karen members in all aspects of Christian Education. This requires lots of attention to good communication, which is time-intensive, but the Innovator Spirit will provide the energy for that, as well.

Something I have heard from some of you is that you would like to deepen relationships with Karen members. So, in 2020, we will be trying **5th Sunday Fellowships**. We will have the 10 a.m. worship service and then gather around tables with food and assigned translators in Thorn Chapel. On each of these occasions, we will have a topic for conversation. Mark March 29, May 31, and Nov. 29 now for these not-to-miss opportunities.

Pastor Daniel San and incoming Moderator Khin Soe Moe and I will be traveling to Burma on February 21 to March 6. The purpose of the trip is 3-fold: to join in the celebration of the 175th Anniversary Jubilee of the Baptist Seminary in Insein, which was founded by ABC missionaries; to visit several of the churches whose pastors TBC helps to support; and for me to gain a better understanding of the land from which many of our members come. Thank you to the Karen Women, who are helping with the cost of travel! Donations to provide basic necessities for people in the churches we visit are welcome. Make checks to TBC marked “Burma Missions”.

To what other new things is God calling you in 2020? Each year presents many precious moments. Let us not waste a single one! Should the way not seem clear, praise God for the new things that surprised you last year. Considering God’s faithfulness in the past often helps us recognize the “streams in the desert” that are popping up around us already.

Loving God, we marvel at your provision and innovation. We praise you for your servants at TBC who have gone before us. Thank you for their willingness to embrace new things that we might be the church we are today. All praise and glory be to you in 2020! Amen.



Pastor Debbie

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 26, 2020 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 2019.
- Adopting the annual Current Expense budget and Missions and Benevolences budget for 2020.
- Conducting such other business that may properly come before the body.

Utica, New York
January 1, 2020

Kler Eh Soe, 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 26, 2020*, 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, 2020

Khinsoe Moe
Moderator

In January, as is our custom, we will be collecting money for Church World Service's Blanket Appeal. Funds received will go to provide blankets and other personal care items to those fleeing violence and oppression in their homelands. Make checks to TBC marked "Blanket Appeal."

Thank you to all who brought in sweatpants and shampoo and/or gave money to buy those for Rescue Mission clients. We were able to deliver more than 50 pairs of sweatpants to keep our neighbors warm.

-Worship and Witness Ministry Team

Staff Update

Please note that we have delineated the Sextons' Job Description from the Maintenance and Grounds Worker Job Description. Tet Net and Mike Dunne work 10 hours and 5 hours respectively in the Sextons' role. Lew Olivadese works 15 hours per week in the Maintenance and Grounds Worker role. All report to Pastor Debbie for supervision. Repair needs should be routed to Lew, and concerns about cleaning should be routed to Mike or Tet Net. All 3 are responsible to help with clearing sidewalks and steps of snow and ice.

Winter Weather Closings

TBC Office will open on at least a 2-hour delay if Utica City Schools are closed for weather. For more information, consult WKTV or Spectrum News. Spring is coming!

Stewardship Update

Thank you to everyone who has turned in a completed pledge card. **As of December 29, we are at 94%** of our goal. If you have not yet returned your completed pledge card, please place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church.

The Caring Corner

The Caring Corner will be opened this **Saturday, January 11, at 10:00 a.m.** There will be clothing and household items available. For more information, please see Lah Hser.

Pastor Away

In case of pastoral emergency between now through January 12, please call Gwen Deragon at (315)723-6529 or Pastor Daniel.

Offering Envelope Boxes

Offering envelopes for 2020 are available in Thorn Chapel. If you do not find your name, please speak to one of the pastors or contact the church office.

Christmas Eve at Tabernacle

December 24, 2019 7:00 p.m.



Will you open the door and, have dinner with Jesus even if he comes unexpectedly?



TBC Dancers



TBC Stick Team



Nativity Scene



Choirs



Wise Men

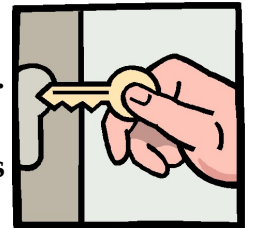


CHURCH BUILDING USE REMINDER

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 closed and all exterior doors are closed and locked.**
- **The alarm system has been properly activated.**



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 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 completed 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 sextons or secretary 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.





Services, Meetings, Special Events and Deadlines ~ January 2019

<i>Women's Worship Service</i>	<i>Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Karen School</i>	<i>Saturdays, 1:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Karen Choir Practice</i>	<i>Saturdays, 4:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Adult and Youth Praise & Worship, Bible Study and Song Practice</i>	<i>Saturdays, 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>English Worship Service and Sunday School</i>	<i>Sundays, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Karen Worship Service and English Sunday School</i>	<i>Sundays, 11:15 a.m.</i>
<i>Second Hour Sunday School</i>	<i>Sundays, 11:15 a.m.</i>
<i>Office Closed</i>	<i>January 1 and January 20</i>
<i>Caring Corner</i>	<i>Saturday, January 11, 10:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Stewardship Ministry Team Meeting</i>	<i>Sunday, January 12, 12:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Annual Reports Due</i>	<i>Sunday, January 19</i>
<i>February Visitor Article Submission Deadline</i>	<i>Sunday, January 19</i>
<i>Annual Meetings</i>	<i>Sunday, January 26, 12:30 p.m.</i>

The Church Office will be closed on Wednesday, January 1 and Monday, January 20

All Annual Reports are due in the church office by Sunday, January 19.

The Deadline to submit an article for the February Visitor is Sunday, January 19

January

Saw Kar	1/1	Aung Tun Sein	1/1
Bu Kler	1/1	Su Shae	1/1
Lay Kler	1/1	Eh Soe	1/1
Eh Htoo Law	1/1	Htoo Tha	1/1
Kaw Lay	1/1	That U	1/1
Tamla Htoo Lea	1/1	Herme Linda Lawrence	1/3
Ehler Sa Lu	1/1	Isabella Moo	1/3
Ehpleh Lu	1/1	Eh Paw Na	1/3
Heh Tha Lu	1/1	Ser Lay Paw	1/3
Naw Dwe Lu	1/1	Wella Ban	1/4
Lay May	1/1	Yee Yee Aye	1/6
Pee Mee	1/1	Daniel Beal	1/8
Mu Mu Meh	1/1	Christine Caruana	1/8
Eh Moo	1/1	Htoo Lay Moo	1/9
Eh Kaw Moo	1/1	Glo Na Wah	1/9
Mulah Mulah	1/1	Kali Shee Moo	1/10
Light Na	1/1	Hon Moon	1/10
Saw Na	1/1	Eh Taw Nee	1/10
A Myint	1/1	Thea Da Muint	1/12
Bo Kyet	1/1	Say Wah Htoo	1/12
Tin Aye	1/1	Eh Blur Wah Win	1/14
Win Ban	1/1	Darryl Htoo	1/15
Bi Bi	1/1	New Year Htoo	1/15
Thi Bway	1/1	Evelyn Sheen	1/17
Di Di	1/1	Thein Than Soe	1/17
Saw Thaw Gay	1/1	Jeason Aung	1/17
Dah Gwae	1/1	Carolyn Dalton	1/17
Pa Hai	1/1	Jerry Htoo	1/18
Tay Heh	1/1	Dah Nyunt	1/22
Kaw Paw Htee	1/1	Carol Green	1/25
Htoo Htoo	1/1	Christ Abell	1/26
Rayni Htoo	1/1	Johnay Calvin San	1/26
Ta K'Taw	1/1	Gedeon Win	1/27
Ah Nu	1/1	Thu Lay Paw	1/27
Gay Paw	1/1	Hkee La	1/28
Hser Lah Paw	1/1	Paw Bluet Ser	1/28
Khee Lar Paw	1/1	Paw Ta Shu Wah	1/28
Lah Ku Paw	1/1	Dar Ler Day	1/29
Naw Pay	1/1	That Lo Paw	1/29
Lah Kah Phaw	1/1	Caphis Baw	1/30
Pi Pi	1/1	Pur Lun	1/31
Baw Po	1/1	Paw Ehlar Thart	1/31
Gracy Po	1/1		
Da Poe	1/1		
Ba Rar	1/1		
Ka Baw Say	1/1		





Tabernacle Baptist Church
 13 Clark Place
 Utica, New York 13501

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 Marcy, NY
 Permit No. 289



**Tabernacle Baptist Church
 Sunday Worship**

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

**In Case of
 Emergency,
 please contact:**

Church Office
 315-735-7534
Pastor Debbie
 315-491-6464
Pastor Daniel
 315-790-4449

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Debbie Kelsey	Pastor
Rev. Daniel Calvin San	Pastor
Rev. Dr. James V. Davison	Pastor Emeritus
Karen Dunne	Minister of Christian Ed.
Say Wah Htoo	Christian Ed. Associate
Gee Lar See	Administrative Secretary
Melody Gay	Organist
Lewis Olivadese	Sexton
Michael Dunne	Asst. Sexton
Tet Net	Asst. Sexton

CONTACTS

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