



Tabor Newsletter

Sunday Worship Service

**10:00 am
and FACEBOOK LIVE**

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

45 Tabor Drive
Branford, CT 06405
(203) 488-2541
www.taborchurch.net



Advent 2024

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Winter 2025

**Tower Deadline Sunday,
January 26, 2025**

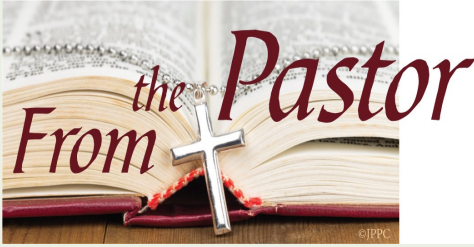
Please put submissions into the Secretary Mailbox outside the office or email to:

taborlutheranchurch@gmail.com

A sincere **THANKS** to all who submit to this publication.

ADVENT 2024

*For
Unto
us a
CHILD
is born
Unto us a Son
is given, and the
Government shall be
Upon His shoulders,
and His Name shall be called,
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace!*
Isaiah 9:6



Developing a heart of generosity

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances! --1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Dear Friends,

Would you like to be a more generous person, possessing a generous heart? Then I invite you to embrace gratitude as a spiritual practice. Since Thanksgiving is coming up this Thursday, this is a wonderful time of the year to give it a try.

Gratitude and generosity go together. Whether you're a millionaire or middle-class, when you are grateful for what you have, you'll likely be happier and more satisfied. You will see the world through eyes of abundance and be more likely to give of yourself—especially toward those who are struggling to get by. As Tabor Lutheran Church is a community of followers of Jesus Christ, we follow Jesus wherever He goes. And He's usually found with those seen as the "least of these".

How can we embrace gratitude as a spiritual practice? Paul gives us good advice.

Give thanks in all circumstances: Paul says give thanks IN all circumstances, not FOR all circumstances. In tough times, we can be grateful for what is going well and for the resources, relationships and faith that will help us through.

Pray without ceasing: Pray in the shower, in your car, on the beach, on your lunch break, at a stop light, in a grocery line. God hears all your prayers. Pray nonstop. Prayer isn't about coming up with eloquent-sounding words, prayer is a way of being. Prayer is as natural as breathing, yet our prayer lives are diminished when prayer becomes so cerebral. "Praying without ceasing" invites us to "get out of our heads" and simply be in the moment. Whatever it takes for you to get into the moment with the Divine, try it!

Rejoice always: Look for everyday celebrations every day. Do you have hot water? A car? Clean socks? food? Friends? Rejoice.

If you need a more disciplined approach, I recommend keeping a journal of your daily thanks, or a "gratitude list" that you can pray over and revise. Keep it up and it's a good bet that your developing "attitude of gratitude" will result in you becoming more generous and seeing the world through a lens of abundance.

Biblical stewardship IS about money; Jesus talks more about money than most other topics. But biblical stewardship goes far beyond simply being a 'patron' of Tabor Lutheran, or any other church. Biblical stewardship is rooted in gratitude, in seeing the world through the lens of 'thanksgiving'. Like many spiritual practices, it doesn't come naturally to us. That's because the world spins its own story, telling us what we lack, what we're at risk of losing, that we need to hold back and stock up, so we don't run out.

Biblical stewardship, especially as reflected by Paul, tells an alternative story: we have all that we need, given to us by a gracious and loving God. God loves us with a self-sacrificing love. God doesn't hold back or stock up; rather God gives the whole Divine self for us, as seen in the crucifixion of Jesus.

If we remain as merely 'patrons' of the ministry at Tabor Lutheran Church, we remain invested in the world's false story. Remember: throughout the Gospels, Jesus always challenges us to go a step farther. In going a step farther in our giving, that means that we aren't only to be 'patrons', giving money with the expectation of getting a return on our investment. Jesus calls us all to be stewards—caring for the abundance that each of us has been giving, with special attention given to those who aren't as blessed. In turn, Tabor's mission isn't merely 'patron-driven', it's driven by the desire to continue following after Jesus, going to the places Jesus goes, knowing that the Holy Spirit goes with us, and sharing our Creator's bounty with ALL of our neighbors.

I invite you to read Tony Kolowski's letter concerning stewardship; Tony is helping me spearhead a new 'Stewardship Team' at Tabor. As you prepare to call a 'settled' pastor (as opposed to an interim / 'transitional' pastor), Tabor would be well-served by having a more solid grounding in biblical stewardship, as I've described.

Until later, I hope you have a blessed Thanksgiving! I look forward to seeing you in worship, as we begin a new Church year with the season of Advent—preparing our hearts to receive God 'in the flesh' once again!

God's peace,
Pastor Chad Adamik
chad.adamik@gmail.com
(502) 663-3888



Christmas Season Worship Opportunities!**‘Blue Christmas’ Service @ First Congregational Church, Branford Green
(Dec. 21st) -- 7:00 P.M.**

The ‘Blue Christmas’, or ‘Longest Night’ Christmas community worship service originates from Hospice ministry. This service is designed for those who have experienced loss. It could be the loss of a loved one through death, or it could be other kinds of ‘loss’: the loss of a relationship, the loss of employment, and so on. The service is always held on December 21st, as this is the Winter Solstice—the longest night of the year. With so much darkness, those who are grieving feel less likely to engage in the usual Christmas celebrations. Yet, the good news of Christmas is for those who grieve, as well. The ‘Blue Christmas’ service seeks to meet people where they are—especially if they do not feel joyful.

Child-Friendly Christmas Eve Service (Dec. 24th) – 3:00 P.M.

This service is designed to be a more ‘friendly’ service for those with young children and toddlers, as well as for those who don’t worship often: Come as you are! You’re welcome at Tabor!

We will celebrate Holy Communion at this service. The service will conclude with the singing of ‘Silent Night’ by candlelight (LED candles will be available for children or anyone who prefers)

There will be a special pageant designed for preschool-aged children (however, children of all ages are welcome to participate). Please call the church office (203) 488-2541 if you have a child who would like to be in this pageant.

Traditional Christmas Eve Service (Dec. 24th) – 5:00 P.M.

This service will be the traditional Christmas Eve worship service that Tabor has celebrated for so long! There will be a special re-telling of the Christmas story, with special musical performances. Children and young adults who have been part of Tabor Lutheran Church will be involved; however, if you are new to Tabor and wish to worship at 5:00, you and your children are welcome to be involved! Please call the church office (203) 488-2541 for more information.

We will celebrate Holy Communion at this service. The service will conclude with the singing of ‘Silent Night’ by candlelight (LED candles will be available for those who prefer them)

**‘Midnight Christmas Eve Service @ Trinity Episcopal Church, Branford Green
(Dec. 24th): 10:30 P.M. – ‘Singing of Carols’
11:00 P.M. -- Service of Holy Communion****CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE @Trinity Episcopal Church, Branford Green
(Dec. 25th): 10:00 A.M. – Service of Holy Communion
Pastor Chad Adamik will be preaching**

2024 Thanksgiving & Christmas Season
❧ Tabor Lutheran Church ❧



Celebrating through Giving:

- Canned food donations (CDR) Until Nov. 23rd (See Attached List)
- The Mitten Tree (BCC) Until Dec. 1st Hats, gloves, mittens & scarves
- Angel Tree (Community Soup Kitchen-NHV) Until Dec. 15th \$20-\$25 gift cards (See List)

Celebrating through Music:

- All Saints Service Nov. 3rd 10:00 am Cellist-Rebecca Patterson, Flutist-Astrid Bernard
- Harpeggios at Tabor Dec 8th 10:00 am
- Shoreline Ringers Concert Dec. 22nd 4:00 pm

Plus, beautiful Music from our talented vocalists and musicians throughout Advent and Christmas Season

Celebrating through Worship:

- Thanksgiving Worship Nov. 23rd - 10:00 am
- Advent Worship Dec. 1st - 10:00 am
- Dec. 8th - 10:00 am Harpeggios
- Dec 15th - 10:00 am Noon -Lunch & Caroling to Shut-ins
- Dec. 22nd - 10:00 am Shoreline Ringers Concert 4:00 pm
- Christmas Worship Dec. 24th 3:00 pm Live Nativity Family Service
- Dec. 24th 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service
- Dec. 29th 10:00 am Lesson of Carols
- Adult Forum "Public Faith" Nov. 3rd - 12:00 pm Drew Collins, Yale Divinity School
- Advent Bible Study Meet @ 12:00 pm after Service and Coffee Hour. Starts Dec. 1st
- 'Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes' by Cynthia M. Campbell

Celebrating through Special Events:

- Hanging of the Greens Sun. Dec. 1st
- Christmas Craft Night w/Arline Connolly Mon. Dec. 9th 6:00 pm (12 maximum) Sign Up in Narthex
- Caroling to Shut-ins Sun. Dec. 15th 12:00 noon Lunch followed by caroling



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

By Tony Kowalski
Tabor Council Treasurer

How do we not just survive but rather THRIVE? Stewardship is rooted in scripture, recognizing we, as individuals, are not owners of our lives but rather are stewards or managers. Stewardship, quite simply is acknowledging that everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God and being grateful and generous with those gifts. It isn't only about giving but also doing. Tabor has a long standing reputation within the community of fulfilling its mission statement on an ongoing basis:

It is the Mission of Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church to be: A blessed community in Christ that warmly welcomes people, across their lifespans, to worship and serve in varied and diverse ways, enthusiastically responding to God's call.

As members of Tabor's congregation, we continue to demonstrate our commitment to fulfilling this mission in many ways – Tabor's Preschool, various community outreach programs, seasonal and ad-hoc service projects, ministries including God's Work Our Hands, Community Dining Room, Branford Food Pantry – and participation with other local churches in activities /events that encourage and foster fellowship between congregations.



We at Tabor truly have a spirit of giving which comes from our hearts. It makes us feel good to do for others in Jesus' name. Be reminded of the gospel story pastor Chad gave a sermon on a few weeks ago about the widow's offering (Mark 12:41 - 44), where Jesus sat with his disciples in the temple courts and witnessed many wealthy people contributing large amounts. Jesus points out the small gift made by a poor widow, emphasizing that she gave all that she had.



There are of course also times when we have to address the financial aspects of Tabor's mission. These include the regular operations that maintain the building and grounds, paying for needed repairs, janitorial services, staff salaries and meeting other financial obligations we have that keep our doors open. This has been especially difficult in recent years as we came out of the isolating and financially challenging environment of the pandemic. Nonetheless, we should remember that we are blessed with having a beautiful space to meet and engage in fellowship with each other. We should be thankful for the less obvious small things that we may take for granted but that happen "behind the scenes" on a regular basis like the hired cleaning company that has the sanctuary and preschool classrooms vacuumed, the floors swept and the bathrooms mopped and sanitized. These are blessings that cannot be realized without the financial resources to pay for them.



Your leadership team at Tabor would like to extend a warm thanks to you for your continuing financial support. In that spirit, the Tabor council and Pastor Chad have asked that a small working group be formed to propose and re-establish a Stewardship team as one way to help improve the financial stability of Tabor Church for the future.

...Continued from page 6

Our current rate of income from envelope giving is projected to fall significantly short of the approved 2024-2025 budget. Once established, this working group will be responsible for developing a plan for how to best address the current shortfall and help ensure that our commitments for envelope giving are met. As a first step, the council has suggested that bi-weekly envelope giving be included in the Sunday Church bulletin. This will allow our church members to monitor progress towards achieving the goals of the Stewardship program on an ongoing basis.

Your Tabor leadership team is asking for your support. Updates on the specifics will be provided as they are developed. If you have any questions you are welcome to contact Pastor Chad.



FALL CLEANUP - DECEMBER 7TH NEXT SATURDAY!

We are seeking volunteers to help with the lawn cleanup on the church and parsonage grounds on December 7th, beginning at 8am.

Please bring your blowers, tarps, gloves, etc to help beautify the church property. Coffee, donuts and bagels will be provided! Please contact Ken Bjork for more details. kbjork01@snet.net

Give the Gift of Warmth

MITTEN TREE - This Sunday is the final day for collection of items for our Mitten Tree. Winter is coming and many will be in need of outerwear items. We are collecting gloves, mittens, hats, and scarves to be delivered to Family Centered Services in December. Please bring your cold weather items to the church by this Sunday, December 1st.



DEVOTIONALS, for January, February & March are available in the Narthex today for a small fee. Take and use these materials to enhance your prayer life.

PRAYER CHAIN For our church family's prayer needs, please reach out to our Prayer Chain Coordinator, Marie Bassett, at 203-483-9147

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for pickup in the Narthex. Please remember to wait until January 1, 2025 to begin using them. Please note that your envelope number for 2025 will likely be different for 2025.



WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS TO HELP WITH THE COST OF THE TREE for the SANCTUARY. Please consider making a donation in the church office or via VENMO and designate the donation to Hanging of the Greens. **THANK YOU!** These donations will help offset the cost of the Christmas Tree for the Sanctuary, the new backdrop, moravian star and other Christmas pageant expenses.



Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 1st
following Coffee Hour

Christmas is such a special time of year - a time of ***celebration, family***, and the ***birth of our Lord***. With this in mind, you are invited to join us as we prepare the house of our Lord to celebrate His birth.

There are jobs for every skill level,
so everyone can help.



SUNDAY, DEC. 15th



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS LUNCH
FOLLOWED BY CAROLING TO OUR SHUTINS

PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX!

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

After worship on December 15th, join us in Room C for a delicious homemade soup & salad lunch and then come with us as we trek our pre-set map of the homes of our shut-ins to bring Christmas Carols to them.

You certainly don't need to be a professional singer to take part in this fun fellowship. This tradition brings such joy to our homebound members and it's so much fun for everyone. Sign up in the Narthex or just SHOW UP and let's go caroling in the afternoon. Come as you are.

OUR GIVING TREE PROJECT 2024

AN EASY, IMPACTFUL WAY TO GIVE THIS SEASON

Tabor's Giving Tree Project 2024 is to collect gift cards to donate to and benefit the clients of Community Soup Kitchen of Christ Church in New Haven. We are making this as easy for you as possible and the guest of Community Soup Kitchen are incredibly grateful for the help you're providing with affordable gift cards to a small list of vendors.

Until December 15th, we are collecting gift cards in the amounts of \$20-\$25 each to Walmart, CVS, Walgreens, Dollar General to provide the guests of CSK of New Haven the opportunity to stretch those dollars for purchases of food, clothing, or holiday gifts for their children and loved ones.

The director of CSK will accept the donated gift cards and place them on the tree at Christ Church, 84 Broadway, New Haven to be collected by their clients on their Day of Gratitude. He has invited Tabor members to come see the Giving Tree at Christ Church and/or to provide a holiday note or card with your donated gift card, as the clients are so grateful for the cards and notes, too. Drop gift cards in the provided box in the Narthex or into the white lockbox outside Dawn's office. Deadline is December 15th.

**Tabor Lutheran Church is donating gift certificates (\$20/\$25) to
COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN, INC. OF NEW HAVEN**

(Walmart, Dollar General, CVS and/or Walgreens)



PLEASE bring GIFT CERTIFICATES by

DECEMBER 15TH

Ring in the Holiday Season with a "Classic Christmas," a holiday handbell concert presented by the Shoreline Ringers. This concert features popular holiday favorites, classic holiday tunes and original handbell compositions, performed by this top-level community handbell ensemble. Shoreline Ringers is a community handbell ensemble based in southeast Connecticut. The non-profit organization strives to educate audiences in the beauty of handbells as they perform a wide variety of challenging music. The ensemble is directed by Andy Wallace and rings 5 1/2 octaves of Malmark handbells and 7 octaves of Malmark hand chimes. They have received national recognition for their performances with their concert at the Handbell Musicians of America National Seminar. For further information, please visit the Shoreline Ringers website at www.shorelineringers.org.



Sunday, Dec 22nd – 4:00 pm
Tabor Lutheran Church
45 Tabor Drive
Branford, CT

Shoreline Ringers brings the spirit of the season alive with a "Classic Christmas" celebration. From cherished carols to timeless holiday melodies, this handbell concert promises to warm your heart and inspire Christmas cheer. Join us for a musical journey filled with the sounds of the season, ringing in memories and magic for all ages. Shoreline Ringers has been a special guest performer with the New Haven Symphony Orchestra and with the US Coast Guard Band.



www.shorelineringers.org



CHRISTMAS CRAFT NIGHT AT TABOR

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9TH 6:00 PM

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH | BRANFORD

ARLINE CONNELLY IS HOSTING A

CHRISTMAS CRAFT NIGHT AT TABOR

COST IS \$8.00 PER PERSON. FOOD AND BEVERAGES
WILL BE PROVIDED. MAXIMUM OF 12 PARTICIPANTS.

PLEASE SIGN UP IN NARTHEX TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT.



JOIN US TO CREATE CRAFTS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Monday, December 9
6:00 p. m.

Arline Connelly is hosting a Christmas Craft Night at Tabor. Join us to help create lovely craft items to be given to our homebound folks for the holidays. Cost is \$8 to cover the costs of materials. Food and beverages will be provided. Sign up in the Narthex or call the office to sign up.



TABOR PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Our precious preschool children will present the annual Tabor Christian Community Preschool Christmas Pageant in the sanctuary on Friday, December 20th, beginning at 10:45 a.m.

Everyone is welcome to join parents and staff watch these adorable little ones exhibit the songs they've been working so hard to perfect.



The following is from The Rev. Nathan Pipho, bishop of the New England Synod of the ELCA, the synod to which Tabor Lutheran Church belong. Bishop Pipho puts out a monthly newsletter via email where he shares his thoughts, as well as what he has been up to in his ministry with the synod. Below, the bishop addresses the divisions that have been heightened in our country since the presidential election. Thank you for taking time to read this; congregations have permission to share the bishop's insights from his 'Bishop's Bulletin' newsletter.

'Bishop's Bulletin' – December 2024

--Rev. Nathan Pipho, bishop of the New England Synod, ELCA



The fear is real.

I have heard personally from many across the New England Synod who fear what the President-elect will do when he takes office in January. At the same time, I know others in the New England Synod voted for the President-elect and are hopeful for better days ahead.

This is my pastoral response to the 2024 Presidential elections: I offer Jesus Christ.

As I shared in the Bishop election last June, my number one priority in my ministry as your bishop would be to tell the story of Jesus. In this moment of human history and at this point in our nation's history, we continue to need Jesus as much as ever.

Regardless of how you voted, or how you feel about the outcome of the 2024 Presidential election, or what you believe will happen in the years to come, the story of Jesus is the good news of a savior who meets us in our fear and unites Republicans, Democrats, Independents, unaffiliated, voters, non-voters, citizens and non-citizens, in God's love announced for all people.

Earlier this fall, the ELCA Conference of Bishops released a statement that invites concrete and real ways we can live in the love of Jesus Christ in this moment in time. Here are the three actions from that statement I feel are the most important for all of us to take, regardless of how you voted in the 2024 election:

Boldly advocate for the marginalized and oppressed, emulating Christ's love for the least among us.

Lean in with curiosity, engage with those who think differently, and "put the best construction on our neighbor's action" (Luther's explanation of the Eight Commandment).

Resist deception and lift up the truth that all members of humanity are created in the image of God.

Continued...

Continued...

These are three real and powerful ways that together as the people of the New England Synod we can live out the love of Jesus for the good of our neighbors.

Together, let us boldly emulate Christ's love for the least among us through service and advocacy. As a church, we have historic commitments in caring for immigrants and more recently, have made public commitments to be a place of welcome and hospitality with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender members and neighbors. As people of Christ, let us always be mindful of our neighbors in need, especially our neighbors facing mistreatment and violence. Together, let us truly listen and learn from those who voted differently than us rather than arguing and dismissing their thoughts and opinions. Stereotyping and generalizing people is always a diminishment of the humanity of others. As people of Christ, let us love one another and receive one another and each other's perspectives and insights.

Together, let us resist and reject the ways any of God's beloved children are blamed for society's ills and used as scapegoats. All humans are created in the image of God – no humans are aliens. As people of Christ, let us always insist on treating all humans, and speaking about all humans, as beloved siblings made in the image of God.

Democracy thrives on the civil, thoughtful and respectful debate of ideas in the public arena. We will and perhaps should, disagree on the specifics of policies and legislation. But even as we disagree, I urge us to be united on the basics: Christ calls us to love and serve our neighbors in need. Though we may disagree on the details, Christ always calls us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the strangers, visit the prisoners and care for the sick. In our common life together, Christ always calls us to make God's love real through public policies that serve our neighbors in need.

The fear is real, but so is the love of Jesus.

Together, as one baptized communion of saints, let us find our hope and unity in the love of Jesus Christ. All are invited to come to the table and know the peace of the risen Jesus in bread and cup. All are invited to find hope that neither the cross nor death could conquer Christ's love. All are invited to know that the crucified and risen Christ loves all people and calls us to solidarity and sacrifice for the sake of our neighbors in need.

I wish you a safe and refreshing Thanksgiving holiday and a blessed Advent season.

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Piphio



FLOWER CHART FOR 2024 SIGN-UP LIST IS POSTED ONLINE

Sign Up Using the Link Today!!

You may take the flowers following the 10:00 Service.

The cost of two bouquets is \$30.

*Your gift is an opportunity to honor and/or remember loved ones,
a special occasion or event!*

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B4AA5AB2EAAF58-53371050-altar#/>

PORK ROAST DINNER

On October 26, Tabor held their annual Octoberfest Pork Roast Dinner. We sold over 100 meals. Thanks to this community we raised over \$1500.



On November 15th, Pastor Chad turned 50 years young! The birthday elves surprised him during worship on the 17th with cake and breakout of song by the entire congregation. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship in the narthex after church. We are grateful to have Pastor Chad Adamik with us during this time of transition and hope 50 is the best year yet!

Happy Birthday



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Orders are open NOW for **Christmas Poinsettias** which will grace our Sanctuary for our Christmas Services. You may place an order by completing this order form placing it and your payment in an envelope and returning it to Tabor, by **Sunday, December 8th.**

They will be available for pickup following the 5pm Christmas Eve Service on **Tuesday, December 24th.**



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS 2024

Orders are now being taken for **Christmas Poinsettias** and which will grace our Sanctuary for Christmas Services. You may place your order by completing this form and returning it, along with payment to the Church Office, by **Sunday, December 8th**. Checks may be made payable to Tabor Lutheran Church. **We suggest that you pick up your Poinsettia to either decorate your home for the Christmas Season --- or to share with a friend, relative, or shut-in of your choice.**

Poinsettia Price: \$22.00 per plant **Poinsettia Color:** Red, White or Pink

How Many	Color Choice	In Honor Of: or In Memory Of:	Given By:	Pick Up Y/N

Total Amount of Payment Enclosed \$_____

Venmo @TaborChurchandPreschool

Tabor Altar Guild



Music Lessons

Guitar with Marc

I use songs we enjoy to show technique & theory in use.

I enjoy the sound and the feeling I get from playing guitar. I also enjoy watching people gain confidence on the instrument as they play their favorite songs. I have the best job in the world! I keep my lessons fun, simple and focused. Hard work comes easy when you don't sweat it!



Piano with Mani

Learning requires focus and repetition that is infused with fun and enjoyment.

Proper technique, ear development, music theory, sight reading, singing solfege, improvisation and composition are all musical abilities that will be developed as we continue to become fluent in the language of music.

Community Dining Room



30 Harrison Avenue
Branford, CT 06405
203-488-9750

Founded in 1985, the Community Dining Room (CDR) is a private, not-for-profit organization providing food, support and companionship to our shoreline neighbors.

We serve the south-central Connecticut shoreline from East Haven to Old Saybrook including the towns of East Haven, Branford, North Branford, Guilford, Madison, Clinton, Westbrook, and Old Saybrook.

Tabor has committed to prepare and serve a meal at the Branford CDR on the 1st Sunday every other month. **December 1st** is the next date Tabor will serve.

We need to arrive at 10:00am and should be cleaned up by 2:00pm.

Please consider signing up and helping with this mission.

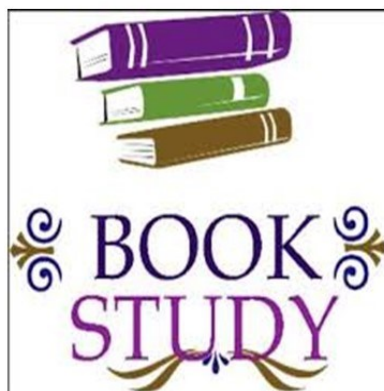
Please contact Theresa Ferguson 203-314-1431 for info or if you are able to volunteer.

Branford Food Pantry, Inc.



The Branford Food Pantry serves the Town of Branford by providing weekly groceries to families in need, and full turkey dinners for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The Branford Food Pantry has a constant need for routine items also, such as cereal, peanut butter, soup, stew and coffee. Tabor will collect these items and deliver to the Food Pantry.

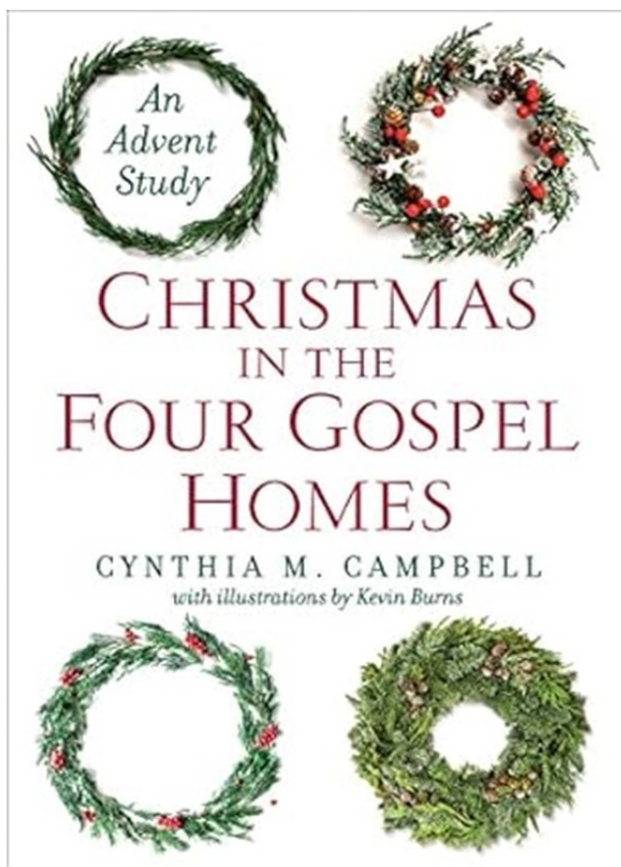


COFFEE TALK BOOK STUDY
WITH PASTOR CHAD ADAMIK

SUNDAYS 11:30 A.M.—12:15 P.M.

DECEMBER 1 - 22

ROOM C



Grab a coffee and a snack after worship and join us in Room C to take part in our Advent Book Study. We will discuss and study this book over the four Sundays of Advent.

How might a house look for Christmas based on what each Gospel says about it? In *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes*, beautiful illustrations from architect Kevin Burns reimagine each of the four Gospels as a house, which the church visits at Christmas. In each section, Cynthia M. Campbell reflects on the distinctive perspective of the birth of Jesus or the incarnation offered by each Gospel. Suitable for individual or group study, *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* creatively reimagines the season and inspires new and exciting reflection for Advent.

The book is available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Pastor Chad attended Branford's "Pet Appreciation Day" on October 6th on the Branford Green. Blessing of the Animals was one part of this day filled with lovable furbabies, including Chad's own poodles, Sebastian and Abby.



We welcome two new members to the Tabor Church Cou*ncl for the next two-years: Thank you to Bob Dolan and Dave Mazur for stepping up to serve.

Notice if you have very young children or grandchildren who would benefit from time at Tabor Christian Community Preschool, voted #1 preschool on the Connecticut shoreline:

Open House for the 2025-2026 school year will take place on Wednesday, January 22nd, 5pm-6pm

***Snow date is Thursday, January 23, 5-6pm**



December Birthdays

Don Brueggemann	12/1
Abby Kelleher	12/2
Bill Peterson	12/3
Anthony Fadel	12/4
Karen Gordon	12/4
Anne Merriam	12/4
MaryBeth Gin	12/6
Kathy Ketterer	12/7
Ashley Scalia	12/7
Corinne Berglund	12/8
Tegan Haskins	12/8
Bob Peterson	12/8
Jeff Allen	12/14
Sebastian Carafeno	12/15
Scott Gordon	12/16
Betty Sparks	12/17
Tyler Knickelbein	12/18
Dave Mazur	12/20
Rich Reinwald	12/21
Piper Foley	12/22
Caleb Benedict	12/26
Peter Stanish	12/27
Susan Devlin	12/28
Karen Otterson	12/28
Kyle Putnam	12/29
Sue Kowalski	12/30
Astrid Bernard	12/31
Greg Teschendorf	12/31

January Birthdays

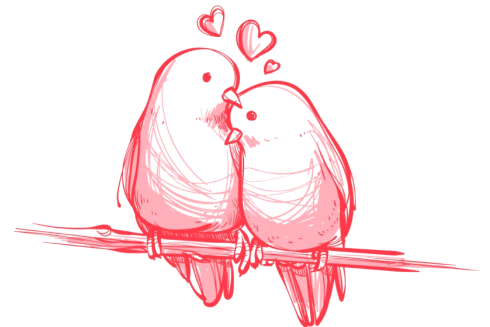
Erin Silvia	1/1
Howard Warfield	1/3
Norman Benedict	1/7
Dottie Bjork	1/10
Peter Harding	1/10
Roy Knickelbein	1/10
Kurt Loehmann	1/12
Heather Loehmann	1/15
William Miller	1/20
Allison Palomaki	1/22
John Rosen	1/23
Spencer Agresta	1/25
Thomas Day	1/27
Brian Dayton	1/27
Cory Onofrio	1/29
Sarah Pensanti	1/30

February Birthdays

Douglas Bowden	2/2
Charles Maturo	2/3
Paul Shepard	2/3
Kerrie Carr	2/11
Kate Foley	2/12
Carter Cox	2/16
Matt Kelleher	2/18
Brenda Stern	2/18
Karen Downing	2/19
Abigail Agresta	2/22
Kathy Christian	2/24
Matthew Allen	2/25
Lane Shoemaker	2/25
Kelsi Putnam	2/27

Winter Anniversaries

Elwood & Lorraine Shepard	12/10
Bruce & Leslie George	12/28



CHRISTMAS EVE



at Tabor Church

3:00 p.m.

This early service is geared to our members who don't wish to venture out after dark and for our families with young children who need to get home early for dinner and



bedtime, etc. We are so thankful for the leadership of Audrey Foley, Kathy Benedict and Sue Kowalski for planning and directing the Christmas Eve Nativity pageant that will include young children from our preschool and community. We will also again have Tripledale Farm's animals here to perform and hang around for a petting zoo experience after the service. Donkey, llama, goats - enjoy this special service with your family and friends.

5:00 p.m.



This service is our traditional Christmas Eve pageant service, with the pageant being performed by our young adults, led by Kiersten Bjork. The animals from Tripledale Farm will be at this service, too, so come as you are and spend this very special time in church with those you love.

We will celebrate Holy Communion at both services. Each service will conclude with the singing of 'Silent Night' by candlelight (LED candles will be available for those who prefer them)

Church Staff:

Rev. Chad Adamik.....	Transitional Pastor.....	502-663-3888
Dawn Carafeno.....	Church Office.....	(203) 488-2541
Charles Stack.....	Organist, Music Director	
Diane Swartz.....	Director, Preschool Director.....	(203) 488-9302