# Parables of Tabor Church

## "Follow Me"

"God is not only saving the world. God is also saving the church. And the church's job is nothing more or less than to serve as a witness to that salvation. Wherever the church has done that faithfully, people begin to see and hear the possibility of "good news" for their own tattered lives. They find themselves ineffably drawn to the sweet sound of God's amazing grace."

-James R. Krabill

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# As God's children and the body of Christ, we are called by God to offer hospitality, healing and hope in the name of Christ.

Volume LVIII January 27, 2013

No. 4

"Parables"

PRELUDE Jerry Toews

WELCOME and CALL TO WORSHIP

Worship Leader, Phil Schmidt

Leader: Christ our teacher,

you reach into our lives

not through instruction, but story.

All: Open our hearts to be attentive:

that seeing, we may perceive,

and hearing, we may understand,

and understanding, we may act upon your word,

in your name. Amen.

\*GATHERING HYMN

"You are salt for the earth"

No. 226

\*PRAYER

\*GREETING EACH OTHER and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

CHILDREN'S STORY Janna Duerksen

SCRIPTURE Mark 4:1-9; 21-34 Brittany Voth

PARABLE #1 "Investments" Board of Deacons

\*HYMN "Will you let me be your servant" No. 307



#### MCC Sale News:

- —We will start the children's Coin Offering NEXT Sunday. Paper coins or the kind that make "a joyful noise" are both encouraged.
- —The MCC Fellowship Meal at Tabor is February 17. We would like to feed 100. Please sign the sheet on bulletin board. Menu is Lasagna. \$15 or donation.
- —If you want to "host" or be a "guest" at Fellowship Meals, please get the signup sheets into Jerry and Leann Toews or Kristen and Archie Schmidt's mailbox.
- —Dates for this years sale is April 12 and 13. Please put those dates on your calendars.

#### OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE January 20, 2013

Offering = \$3,919.26 Attendance = 164 Adult S.S. = \$65.24 Attendance = 81 Jr. S.S. = \$13.89 Attendance = 23 Support our College Students: Mark your calendar to bring items for College Care Packages on February 10. A list of students will be publicized by the end of January. You can either bring a package for a specific student in a 1-gallon size zip-lock bag labeled with their name OR just bring items & the committee will make care packages. Place the items on the table north of the kitchen before noon on February 10. Thanks!

#### **Spring Sunday School Electives (Beginning in March):**

For Women—A Sister Care Sunday School elective will be offered. "Sister Care, Equipping Women for a Caring Ministry" will give you tools to care for yourself and others. A team that has attended a Sister Care seminar will lead this study. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. For Men—"Under Construction: Reforming Men's Spirituality" by Gareth Brandt will be the focus of study. Details will be coming soon.

From Pastor Phil: Tabor Congregation: I am interested in connecting with you more intentionally this coming year. Two ways that I would like to do this are: 1) I would like to come and visit you at home and/or at work (I plan to be in touch with you, but feel free to let me know when might be a good time for me to visit) and 2) I would like to continue praying for each of you (if you have a business card or small picture, please pass that on to me so I can post it on my office door as a reminder to me to pray). I have already enjoyed hearing many of your stories, and I look forward to deeper connections in this year ahead!

A Mennonite Disaster Service trip has been scheduled for the week of February 24, 2013 to Joplin, MO. If you are interested in being a part of this trip, please sign up on the bulletin board or let Dale Alderfer or Steve Janzen know as soon as possible. We are allowed 10-12 people on this week. All ages and skill levels welcome.

**Time for Basketball:** The 2013 WDC Basketball Tournament will be held on the evenings of March 19, 21 and 22 at Bethel College. Registration deadline is March 1. Please contact Phil Unruh if you are interested in playing on Tabor's team.

**Are you interested** in being a Tabor delegate for Mennonite Convention in Phoenix, Arizona this summer? The convention dates are July 1-6. Please let Pastor Phil know if you are interested.

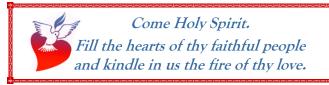
Lodging reservations can be made starting January 22. Also, see posted flyer about the Purposeful Plan Banquet, a fund-raising event for the ministries of Mennonite Church USA, scheduled for July 2.

**Package:** There is a red and white stripe Christmas Package on the banister next to the mailboxes. If it belongs to you, please pick it up, or if you are the person who left it, please see that it gets to the person it should.

PARABLE # 2 "The Kingdom of Heaven" Commission on Administration PARABLE # 3 "Participation" Commission on Worship/Fellowship "For we are strangers no more" \*HYMN No. 322 PARABLE #4 "All God's Children" Commission on Education "The Parable from the Branding Iron Café" PARABLE # 5 Commission on Outreach \*HYMN OF RESPONSE "Seek ye first the kingdom of God" No. 324 Children dismissed to Sunday School during this hymn SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER CONGREGATONAL UPDATES Mennonite Youth Fellowship Facilities Task Force "Guide my feet" vv. 1-3 \*SENDING HYMN No. 546 \*BENEDICTION \*POSTLUDE

### Today

Today we continue our journey through the Gospel of Mark. Our focus this morning is on Jesus, the one who teaches in parables. As this Sunday is the second half of our annual meeting, instead of a sermon, we will hear several parabolic stories of how God has been at work through our church commissions. Scripture for reflection is Mark 4:1-34.



#### **Today Continued**

We are so glad you are here with us to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Harlin and Doris Unruh and Jerry and Darlene Schroeder. A special welcome is extended to all visitors.

Childcare is provided by Janna Duerksen in the nursery during the worship service.

Children will be dismissed near the end of the first hour to meet for Sunday school time.

**11:45**—Please come enjoy chicken tortilla soup, chili soup and a dessert auction which will be the featured components of the TMYF noon fundraising meal, next Sunday, in the Tabor Fellowship Hall. The youth will be gratefully accepting donations for their summer convention trip to Phoenix.

On the table in the foyer are **Prayer Request Cards**. You are invited to fill one out if you have a request and return it to a pastor's box.

#### This Week

#### Tabor Serves at Harvey County Homeless shelter through Jan. 29

#### Wednesday, January 30

9:00 a.m.—Women's Bible Study.

#### Wednesday Evening Activities

6:00 - 6:45 p.m.—Supper Sign up for the meal.

6:30 - 6:45 p.m.—Kids' Movement

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.—Faithful Fitness

**6:45 - 7:15 p.m.**—Sonbeams, Children of Light, Faith Friends (age 3-5)

**7:00 - 8:00 p.m.—**TMYF

**7:15 - 7:45 p.m.**—Faith Friends (K-gr. 1)

**7:15 - 8:15 p.m.**—Faith Adventures, Youth Explorers

**7:30 - 8:30 p.m.**—Adult Choir

#### Next Sunday, February3

**9:30** a.m.—Next Sunday we continue our journey through Mark's Gospel. In addition to calling Disciples and teaching in Parables, Jesus is also the one who heals many people. While there are several healing stories in Mark's Gospel, we will focus on two back-to-back healings as recorded in Mark 5:21-43. Pastor Phil will be preaching.

Additionally, we welcome the Bel Canto Singers from Hesston College, who will provide special music during the morning worship service.

10:45 a.m.—Sunday School for everyone

#### Prayer Requests

The following requests were shared on January 20:

- ★ Marcene Entz offered a praise for the morning's worship service by leading the congregation in singing "I have decided to follow Jesus."
- ★ Brent Abrahams praised God that all of Tabor's evening slots were filled for serving at the Homeless Shelter.

#### Remember to pray for:

- **★** Tabor Jr. Highers who are at Hesston College this weekend for "Know Jesus".
- ★ Western District Conference: Pray for our Junior High Youth who have been encountering Christ through the Anabaptist witness at "Know Jesus" hosted by Hesston College yesterday and today.
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: A MMN family engaged in a sensitive ministry of facilitating Christian-Muslim understanding, requests prayer for the Middle East. Many people, especially those in Egypt, Lebanon and Syria, fear for the future. Pray for the churches in these countries as they witness to God's peace and reconciliation.
- ★ Mennonite Education Agency: Pray for the Hesston College Bel Canto Singers as they present a fundraiser concert for the Holy Cross Shrine in Pfiefer, Kan., today with the Goessel High School Elbiata Singers at the Cathedral of the Plains in Victoria, Kan.

#### Announcements

**Thanks!** Jerry and Leann would like to THANK all of you that supported the fund raiser meal Wed night for "Peace Connections". We raised \$460 which will be given to their work.

**New!** The Tabor Church website has recently received a makeover! You should now be able to view the updated version by going to Tabor's website at <a href="https://www.tabormennonite.org">www.tabormennonite.org</a>. If you have information you would like to see added/corrected on the new site, please let Sherry Unruh know.

**2013 Directory:** Please submit changes and updates for the 2013 Tabor Church Directory at this time. Email: kfunk@tabormennonite.org, or place in secretaries mailbox.