



Mount Tabor



Worship Themes

April 7 - Youth Sunday

God is my Anchor

Hebrews 6:18-19

TMYF

April 14 - Children of Light Musical

"Fish Tales"

Matthew 14:13-21

Children of Light

April 21 - Parent and Child Dedication

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Pastor Phil preaching

April 28 - Jars of Clay

II Corinthians 4:7-12

Pastor Doug preaching



Tabor Church News

April, 2013

"April Fools! "

"But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him.'"
-Mark 16:6

Person 1: "April Fools!"

Person 2: "Ugh! You got me: good one!"

Many people celebrate April 1st even though it is not a national holiday. Our method of celebration: practical jokes of course! April 1st, also known as "April Fools' Day," is a day to be cautious lest you fall into the trap of someone else's prank.

This year, we have already reflected on the connection between Holy Week and March Madness. Now, as March Madness begins to wrap up, April Fools' Day rapidly approaches. With this in mind, let us also consider Jesus' resurrection in comparison to a really great April Fools' joke. Jesus had died on the cross, his body was laid in a tomb, and when the Sabbath was over, three women went to anoint his body. On arriving at the tomb, the women encounter three surprises: 1) the large stone has been rolled away from the entrance, 2) there is a young man in a white robe sitting inside, and 3) Jesus' body is not there!

April Fools! Jesus has been raised from the dead!

Now, when someone plays a really good April Fools' joke on you, it can be difficult to gather your bearings right away. What you thought was true has been a lie all along! Thus, even though the women are instructed to go tell the other disciples the good news and meet Jesus in Galilee, they flee the tomb in fear, unsure of what just happened. And that is where Mark's story ends: the Gospel ends abruptly and we're left to ponder what just happened.

But we know what happened: the young man in the tomb told us. Jesus has been raised to new life and gone ahead to Galilee where the whole discipleship journey began in the first place. Everyone who has abandoned Jesus now has a second chance to follow him along the way to God's kingdom.

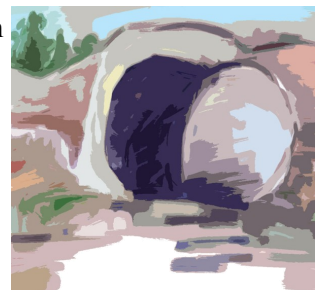
Good News: April Fools! Jesus is not dead, but alive! God was present with Jesus all the way through suffering and death, and God faithfully raised Jesus to new life. Yes, Jesus' resurrection is the greatest April Fools' joke played in all of history.

God: "April Fools!"

Death: "Good one."

Therefore, may we embrace the opportunity for new life. May we meet Jesus again and faithfully follow him through our entire life journey.

~Pastor Phil





Food Pantry Needs

Tabor Mennonite Church
Food Pantry

Cereal
Oatmeal
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Mac and Cheese
Ramen Noodles
Spaghetti Sauce
Pasta/ Spaghetti Noodles
Tuna, chicken and canned meats
Chili and Soups
Applesauce
Fruit
Peas
Cake Mix
Jello
Pudding
Bathroom Tissue
Laundry Soap
Dish Soap
Shampoo
Toothpaste
Paper Sacks

Please place items in the blue tub in the foyer.

Thanks to all of you for supplying the needs of the Food Pantry.

Inherit the Mirth by Cuyler Black



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Tabor Mennonite Youth Fellowship

The TMYF has been busy over this past month with lessons and continued learning and growth in Christ. During our Wednesday Night sessions we started off covering the topic of what to do when bad things happen to good people. The following week we took a break from lessons to learn some important information on Hesston College and Bethel College which helped to answer a few of our questions about the college experience. We heard the personal stories of Josh Booth and Michelle Unruh on their individual spiritual journeys during college. In the next weeks the youth group had a game night and a visit from Jill Schmidt of Mission Network voluntary service to inform us of service options that are and will be available for us as youth. Throughout the month the youth group has continued to fine tune our musical material for Youth Sunday, which is April 7. We have also organized another Phoenix 13 fund raiser; the TMYF will be making and selling Bierocks so we hope you all are hungry.
—Reece Hiebert, TMYF Reporter

Willing Helpers

Willing Helpers met March 18 for a project work night. Twenty one women tied two comforters for MCC, embroidered tea towels for Tabor Church and cut bags for MCC Health and School Kits. Joyce Ashley led devotions on Amos 3:13-15, 4:1-3 on the "Consuming Power of Women." Deloris Schmidt, Norma Graber and Phyllis Goertzen attended the Comforter Blitz in Yoder and Kris Schmidt gave a report on the MDS Joplin Service Trip. Ten Tabor Women attended the WDC Spring Supper for Mennonite Women in Hesston. They enjoyed hearing Ruth Lapp Guengerich speak on "The Gospel according to Ruth: lessons learned about women, life and Mennonite Women USA."

All Tabor Church Women are invited to the Monday, April 15 6:00 pm Spring Salad Supper. Mary Schmidt will be our speaker and Erlene Unruh will lead devotions. Please bring a salad to share. Invite a daughter, mother, or a friend.
—Joyce Ashley



Kansas

Mennonite Relief Sale

April 12 & 13, 2013

Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson

Donate - Attend - Spend some \$

Watch for MCC news for returns on your investments.

"For we are what he made us, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." Ephesians 2:10

45th Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale -- April 12 & 13, 2013 -- KS State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson

PCPF (post-college, pre-family)

In my years since graduating from Bethel, I have been experiencing a somewhat awkward in-between stage of life. I am no longer in college. I am not yet married. I do not have kids. Where in the church do I plug in? We have many young families at Tabor, and they are experiencing responsibilities and events that are still a long way off (seemingly) for me. College students are still experiencing the rigors and thrills of college life of which I am no longer a part. What to do?

Well, over the past several months, young adults at Tabor that fall into the “post-college, pre-family” (PCPF) category have decided to start meeting once a month for a potluck and usually games/movies/shenanigans following the meal. Not only does this provide the opportunity to prepare tasty dishes and sample each other’s cooking, it also gives us a chance to fellowship with one another and meet with those in the congregation to whom we would most closely relate due to our current stages of life. Some of us are married. Some of us are living on our own. Some of us live with housemates. *All* of us enjoy food and fellowship. This got us thinking: if we can sustain a group here at Tabor, are there others in the surrounding area that may enjoy getting together in a similar fashion? So, the idea of an area-wide PCPF gathering was born.

On Saturday, March 9, 25-30 young adults gathered in the parsonage basement for a potluck meal and time of fellowship with one another. We played some mixer games so we were able to meet those we did not know and also had the chance to reflect on the desire for continued gatherings in the future. For me personally, I knew almost everyone there, but it had been several years since I had spoken with them! I believe the majority of those in attendance agreed that this event was a positive experience and look forward to more regular get-togethers in the future. Churches represented at the gathering included Tabor, Alexanderwohl, Faith (Newton), Zion, Grace Community, and First Mennonite Churches of Halstead, Newton and Moundridge.

—Michael Unruh



WDC Basketball Tournament

Twelve teams participated in the WDC Basketball Tournament last week: Alexanderwohl, Bethel College, Eden, First (Halstead), First (Newton), Hesston, Hoffnungsau, Journey, Tabor, West Zion, Whitestone, joint team - Zion (Elbing) & Grace Hill. Congratulations to the winners in Division I - Whitestone, and Division II - Zion/Grace Hill. Many thanks to Lynn Eichelberger who organized the tournament.

Tabor finished the tournament with a 2-1 record. Team members were Phil Unruh, Michael Unruh, Duane Unruh, Phil Schmidt, Kenton Nickel, Ben Schmidt, and Chris Bengtsson.

Wednesday Evening Schedule in April

April 3 - Pine Car Derby

- 6:00 p.m. - Mother prepared supper for children and weigh in for cars.
- 6:30 p.m. - Children of Light
- 7:00 p.m. - TMYF
- 7:30 p.m. - Pine Car Derby begins

April 10 -

- 6:00 p.m. - Mother prepared supper for children. Children of Light practice until 7:30 p.m.
- 6:30 p.m. - Faithful Fitness
- 7:00 p.m. - TMYF

April 17 -

- 5:45 p.m. - Thank You Meal and evaluation meeting for Wed. Evening Leaders
- 6:30 p.m. - Faithful Fitness
- 7:00 p.m. - TMYF
- VBS Orientation (follows evaluation meeting)

April 27 -

- 6:30 p.m. - Faithful Fitness
- 7:00 p.m. - TMYF

Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Alvin James Thiesen was born on the 19th of July in the year 1940 to Daniel S. and Esther Olga Thiesen, in Goessel, Kansas. He grew up on the family farm and started his education in the Greenfeldt school. He traveled to and from school with his siblings by horse-and-buggy and became a good student despite the fact that Low-German was the primary language spoken at home. Alvin attended and graduated Goessel High School.

He was baptized upon his confession of faith and became a member of Tabor Mennonite Church on May 9, 1957, where he remained a faithful member until his passing.

He declared himself a conscientious objector during the draft for the Vietnam Conflict and served in 1W service at Fitzsimons Army Hospital in Denver, Colorado. This is where he met Ann Lucile Roadway. They were married on April 29, 1962.

Alvin worked many jobs, including driving milk trucks, sand trucks, and at the Goodyear Tire Plant. But the job that would become his career started at Hesston Corporation. Over the years, he held many positions at the plant, but took pride in being asked by the Engineering Department to run the new equipment on the test track.

In 1964, son Dale Ray was born. At that time the new family was living in Newton but attended church at Tabor. In 1966 Alvin wrote a letter to a gentleman who had just inherited 28 acres of land and asked to purchase it from him. Several weeks later, Alvin became the owner of the farm north of Tabor Church where he built a basement and capped it with a flat roof and then moved his family in.

In 1968, Alvin purchased a square baler and the next year he purchased a Hesston 250 swather and the Thiesen Custom Baling Service was begun. Over the years, Alvin swathed, baled, and sold hay feed and took pride in baling hay for farmers from Tabor such as Ray Schmidt, Henry Unruh, and Arnold Voth, because these were men for whom he worked in high school and who he admired.

In 1970, daughter Geraldine Robin (who prefers to be called Jeri) was born. This growth in the family prompted the growth of the house, as Alvin added a one story structure over the basement.

At some point in his life, Alvin learned to find value in machinery others had given up on. There was seldom a Saturday morning you would not find him at a farm auction buying a relic and hauling it home. When he finally had his own farm sale and auction in 2008, there were over 200 tractors and crawlers, and countless items of vehicles, stationary engines, and farm machinery. Many were antiques that drew buyers from eight states. Organizing this sale took months of preparation by the family, and still would not have been completed had the Mennonite Men of Tabor Church not contributed two full work weekends to ready the property.

These last months, Alvin's health did not allow the quality of life he wanted for himself. The family is comforted that he is now at peace. But if we can all for a moment imagine that some portion of Heaven has farm auctions on Saturday mornings, then we know that tomorrow morning Alvin and his brothers Kenneth and Delbert will be bidding against each other for some farm implement they just know they can nurture a little more life out of.

Alvin always felt a part of this church home at Tabor. He was born here, he was raised in this church, he raised Dale and Jeri in this church, and his wife continued to bring him to services when able even after he moved to Bethesda Home late last year. His love of God and his commitment to this church could never be separated.



Thank you

to the congregations and members of Western District Conference
-Phyllis Regier, WDC Business Manager

Because of your generosity and support for our projects, Western District Conference ended the 2012 fiscal year with a surplus. Our staff has also practiced good stewardship by keeping expenses down and spending only 87% of the projected budget. The surplus will be put to good use. 50% will be transferred to a church planting restricted fund and used to help support our new church plants. The rest will be used to replace aging office equipment and a worn out conference vehicle. Thank you again for your support.

Summer Camps!!

Now is the time for registering students to spend a week at Camp Mennoscah this summer. To receive a \$10 discount, have your registration and full payment to Camp Mennoscah by May 1. To receive a \$50 scholarship from Tabor Church, please sign up on the bulletin board and families will be issued a check for their children who are attending camp.