



Christmas At Tabor

December 24, 7:00 pm:

Tabor children will present the Christmas Eve Program "A Savior is Born". A special offering will be received for MCC relief kits for distribution in the Philippines. Make checks payable to Tabor Mennonite Church with MCC Kits on the memo line.

December 25, 10:00 am:

Christmas Day! Celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas morning. Prelude begins at 9:45 am with the service at 10:00 am. Please join us in celebrating Christmas with congregational singing, special music, scripture readings and reflections. A special offering for IBA (Anabaptist Biblical Institute) will be received. Make checks payable to Tabor Mennonite Church with IBA on the memo line.

December 29, 9:15 am:

Sunday after Christmas. Our annual Christmas social hour will take place during the formation hour. Please bring Christmas goodies to share as we fellowship and celebrate together. Children's Sunday school and Adult Formation Stations will not meet.



Tabor Mennonite Church

Worship: 9:15 am Fellowship Time: 10:30 am Faith Formation: 10:45 am

891 Chisholm Trail, Newton, KS 67114

Phone: 620-367-2318 e-mail: tabor@tabormennonite.org
website: www.tabormennonite.org check out the sermon blog

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.

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Year of the Bible

“Living Into God’s Story”

Volume LVIII

December 22, 2013

No. 50

“O, the mystery of God’s dwelling in the child that is born. Let us receive the child who came to establish the house of the Lord - *there is joy!*”

PRELUDE Jerry Toews

WELCOME Worship Leader, Michael Unruh

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE
Brent, Pam, Samuel, Sophia and Simeon Abrahams
“Come! Walk in the light” Adult Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son!

People: Let us awake to joy!

Leader: He shall be called “God is with us,”

People: and will refuse evil and choose good.

Leader: God gives us a sign:

All: O, the mystery of God’s dwelling in the child that is born!

*GATHERING HYMN *“Let our gladness have no end”* No. 198

*GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE *“O come, all ye faithful”* No. 212

*GREETING EACH OTHER

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERING OUR GIFTS *Please pass MCC kit items to the center aisle.*

SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER Pastor Doug Krehbiel

SCRIPTURE READING *Isaiah 7:10-15; Matthew 1:18-25* Katy Schmidt

HYMN *“Where is this stupendous stranger”* No. 200

CHILDREN’S STORY Janna Duerksen

HYMN *“Angels we have heard on high”* No. 197

GLORY HALLELUJAH!

Adult Choir

Script: meditation excerpts from Rev. Johann G. Roten and Rob Devens
Used with permission.

Director: Marcene Entz

Accompanist: Karen Andres

Reader: Pastor Rosie Jantz

“Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah” - Natalie Sleeth

“Rise Up!” - arr. Mark Hill

“See, Amid the Winter’s Snow” - arr. Lloyd Larson

Soloists: Jude Krehbiel, Donavon Schmidt

“On This Day, Earth Resounds” - arr. Robert Sieving

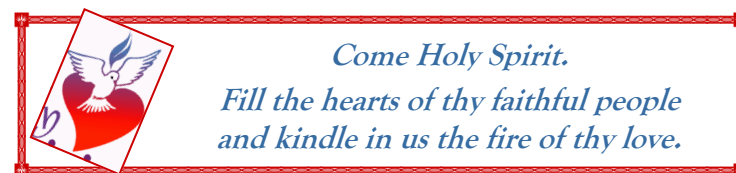
*BENEDICTION

Leader: Receive the child who comes to establish God’s dwelling!

People: God is with us!

All: In the mystery of God’s dwelling in the child, there is joy!

*POSTLUDE



Today

Today we are reflecting on the mystery of God's coming in the person of Jesus. Be filled with the Spirit of Christmas as the Adult Choir proclaims God's Good News through song.

We are so glad you are here with us to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Kevin, Yvette, Corynn and Stephan Nickel and Archie and Kristin Schmidt. *A special welcome is extended to all visitors.*

Childcare is provided by Sarahanne Unruh in the nursery during the worship service.

10:30—Fellowship Time/Biblical Snacks: Pretzel Stars

10:45—Faith Formation for everyone.

Adults:

Bible Study-Rm. 113

Biblical People-Library

Discussion-Rms. 112 and 211

Drama-Sanctuary

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.

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.: Night in the Barn

This Week

Tuesday, December 24

7:00 p.m.—Christmas Eve Program

Wednesday, December 25

10:00 a.m.—Christmas Day Worship

Pastor Phil and Mary continue to be on vacation through December 26. The church offices will be closed Dec. 24 & 25. Hours will be irregular on Dec. 23, 26 & 27. In case of emergency, if no answer at the church, call Pastor's Rosie or Doug at home.

Next Sunday, December 29

9:00 a.m.—Prelude

9:15 a.m.—Next Sunday we continue our Year of the Bible by focusing on the book of Psalms. This collection of poems and songs was a significant part of Israel's worship life and these words continue to ring true today. We will hear from several Tabor Young adults, who will each share a favorite Psalm and highlight that Psalm's significance for them.

10:30 a.m.—Fellowship Time in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite Christmas goodies to share. Formation Stations/SS will not meet.

Prayer Requests

The following requests were shared on December 15.

★ Lila Harris shared thanksgiving for the carolers who caroled for her.

Remember to pray for:

- ★ Western District Conference: Praise God for his indescribable salvation gift – Jesus Emmanuel, God saves and God is with us. Merry Christmas from the WDC Staff! Together with you, we celebrate the coming of Jesus, the one who gives us joy, love and hope! We wish you many blessings during this holy season.
--Clarence, Gilberto, Marlene, Nancy, Phyllis, Sandra, Dwight
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: Lois and Wayne Hochstetler, pastoral counselors to MMN personnel around the world, were based in London, England, for five years. In November, they returned to Illinois to complete the last four months of their assignment before retiring. Pray for the Hochstetlers in the many adjustments they are experiencing.
- ★ Mennonite Education Agency: Pray for international students at all Mennonite educational institutions who are celebrating Christmas away from families and their own holiday traditions. Ask God to be near to them and surround them with new friends and meaningful celebrations.

Announcements

Thank you so much for the tremendous support that you provide Bethesda. We are blessed by the many ways that you help to enhance our ministry to our residents. Thank you for your visits, volunteer hours, prayers, kind words, referrals and generous contributions. Our relationship with Tabor and your members continues to be a meaningful and special one. We wish you God's blessing in your ministry and hope 2014 proves a year filled with joy and many blessings for your congregation. —Eric Schrag, Bethesda Home

Night in the Barn: The Tabor Mennonite Youth Fellowship will share their annual living nativity, Night in the Barn, this evening December 22 from 6-8 p.m. in the barn of Maynard Knepp and Carol Duerksen. The come and-go event will feature unique perspectives from the innkeeper and a shepherd, and Christmas carols. Visitors are welcome to gather around a bonfire and enjoy hot drinks as part of the evening's activities. Admission is free and donations to the youth group will be accepted. Directions to Night in the Barn: From Goessel: 3 miles north on Hiway 15, 4 miles east on 150th, $\frac{3}{4}$ north on Falcon. From Hillsboro, 4 miles south on Indigo, 3 west on 150th, $\frac{3}{4}$ north on Falcon. From McPherson, Hiway 56 to Hiway 15 south, 5 miles on Hiway 15 to 150th, 4 miles east on 150th and $\frac{3}{4}$ north on Falcon. (Follow these directions and not GPS directions.) For more information, call 620-367-8432 or 620-386-0709.

Remembering Mission Partners Joe and Anna Sawatzky: While the Sawatzky family anticipates the culmination of eight years at Bethany Bible School towards the end of 2014, your ongoing financial gifts will help Anna and Joe prepare for a strong transition and stabilize the leadership they have nurtured for the ongoing ministry of Bethany Bible School. Any contributions over and above Joe and Anna's expenses will be used for Mennonite Mission Network's continuing ministry in South Africa. You may donate online at: <http://www.mennonitemission.net/Donate/Pages/Home.aspx> or mail checks to Mennonite Mission Network, P.O. Box 370, Elkhart, IN 46515-0370. Include Joe and Anna's name on the memo line.

Firstfruits Display: If you left an item for our Firstfruits display in November, please pick up that item from the counter in Pastor Rosie's office.

Annual Reports are due in the church office by the end of December.

Directory Updates are now due. Please contact the church office with additions, changes or corrections to the Tabor Church Directory. If you would like your cell phone number listed in the directory please let us know.

Database information: Please submit your cell phone number to the church office so that it can be included on the emergency call list. *We will not list your cell phone number in the directory unless you have specified that we do so.*

Additional announcements are on the Community and Conference announcement sheets received via email or mailboxes. Additional sheets are in the literature rack in the foyer.

OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE December 15, 2013

Offering	=	\$ 3,043.00	Attendance	=	183
Adult S.S.	=	\$ 37.50	Attendance	=	39
Jr. S.S.	=	\$ 12.98	Attendance	=	19