



Pastor Phil' Ordination Service



Sunday Worship Themes

Nov. 2 - Cloud of Witnesses

Hebrews 11:1-12:3

Pastor Phil preaching

Nov. 9 - Overflowing Mission

John 4

Pastor Phil preaching

Nov. 16 - Complete Restoration

2 Corinthians 5

Pastor Rosie preaching

Nov. 23 - Giving Thanks

Deuteronomy 26

Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving

Nov. 30 - Worship Fully

First Sunday of Advent

Pastor Phil preaching

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Tabor Church News

November, 2014

Phil's Ponderings

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." (Colossians 3:15).

As we draw near Thanksgiving, I am reflecting on some of the people, situations and things that fill my heart with gratitude:

A caring wife;
An adorable son;
An energetic dog;
A compassionate church community;
People to process difficult decisions with;
Friends to have fun with;
Shoulders to cry on;
Opportunities to share God's Good News with others;
Morning runs and evening walks;
Sunrises, sunsets, and puffy white clouds;
A loving God.

I wonder: who are the people and what are the things that you are most thankful for? During what times has your heart been full of gratitude in this past year? What are ways that you have shared your thanksgiving with others?

~Pastor Phil

P.S. If you have a testimony of thanksgiving, I would love to hear about it.

Rosie's Reflections

What is the first thing we do when others treat us unfairly? Sometimes it is easier to lash out with hurtful words. We don't like to be put down or feel humiliated, so our effort goes immediately to making ourselves feel better. We get into a defense mode, but this reaction often digs a deeper pit of anger, and soon we find ourselves operating out of that anger and pain. The conflict grows deeper. We've all been there, right? What can we do instead? In Colossians 3, we find a new way to respond. The Apostle Paul asks us to consider the clothes we choose to wear each day. God has them picked out for us; all we need to do is choose to wear them. As I read verses 12-17, I am struck by the analogy of putting on God's clothes each day. If we operate out of our belovedness instead of our anger and pain, then what others think of us becomes secondary. If we put on the clothes of patience and humility, we can respond with forgiveness just as God has forgiven us, rather than returning hurtful words and actions.

There is a song in *Sing the Journey* that rings in my ears when I read Colossians 3:12-17. *"Beloved, God's chosen, put on as a garment compassion, forgiveness, and goodness of heart. Above all, before all, let love be your raiment that binds into one every dissonant part"* (Sing the Journey 38). May the peace of Christ rule in your heart, and may love be your all-purpose garment every day.

~Pastor Rosie



Willing Helpers

The Tabor Church Willing Helpers met at Bethesda Home on August 28th for a fun evening spent with the residents and others. Each of us brought an object from the past to show the group which sparked a wonderful evening of conversation and sharing around the room. The Willing Helpers brought cookies to share with everyone at the end of the evening.

Brent Abrahams joined us on September 15th for "Tool Time" where he spoke about some basic points of car maintenance, what the warning lights really mean, and some points to remember when it comes to the care of your car. Gayle Funk also shared the latest trends in decorating colors for our homes.

We held a work-day meeting on Oct. 15th. We tied comforters and also embroidered some tea towels. Both projects are to benefit MCC.

We are looking forward to November 17th when Kathy Burkey Wiens will be our featured speaker for the evening. Kathy was an early childhood educator for twenty-eight years, teaching both children and adults. She also founded a ministry called "Welcome the Children" which offers workshops to help faith communities value and nurture children. Kathy wrote the book "Bars, Dumps, and Other Childhood Hangouts" which tells her own childhood story of poverty, abuse, and neglect which eventually led her to a children's home and later she was placed in the foster care system in Lincoln, NE. We are anxious to hear her story of how she overcame these childhood events, what gave her strength and helped her to grow to become the person she is now. Please join us for this evening with Kathy, which will begin at 7:00 pm.

~Diana Schmidt

Digging Deeper with Doug

I received a call from a telemarketer the other day. He had a deep, resonant professional radio announcer voice and indeed identified himself as being a disc jockey on one of the classic country stations. He said the purpose of his call would be demonstrated to me in a 30 second sample advertisement that he would now do live. Before I could get in a word he launched into a very patriotic ad about the importance of supporting our military who have fought for our freedoms and way of life in the USA and that this announcement was sponsored by "Kreeble" Recording at 316-283-7351 (my other job). He went on with more variations on the same theme mentioning my name and number at the end once more. When he was finished, he asked me what I thought. There was a meaningful pause . . . I asked if he'd heard of Mennonites. He said yes—with a voice that no longer sounded like a professional radio announcer. I said, "Well, I am a pastor in the Mennonite Church and we practice non-participation in the military". I said I would probably not be interested in the ad. He wished me a good day and hung up before I had a chance to ask for 30 seconds of his time. The following would have been my 30 second ad:

In Matthew 5:9 Jesus blesses those who work at peacemaking and calls them children of God. Nice words, but most say non-violence doesn't work. However, in the past century there were scores of successful nonviolent movements. Most importantly, peace is the way of God--- the example of Christ. People who are non-violent have been called cowards . . . And while we know it takes courage to be in the military, we maintain it takes more courage to put your life on the line without doing violence back. Jesus was anything but a coward. *"If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews."* John 18. And ultimately Jesus sticks by his words, choosing to die rather than to kill. Peace takes guts. This is our legacy as Christians. As Christ's followers we are called to take the path of peace and love enemies. We believe Jesus meant what he said and he was talking to us!

This message is sponsored by Krehbiel Recording 316-283-7531. (OK, it's a 45 second ad!)

Would this have been an effective way to witness for peace? Let me know what you think.
~Pastor Doug



Here is our monthly marriage moment: a meaningful memento to married couples to make your marriages marvelous!

"Marriage is not for sissies. It's hard work." Anyone who has been married for more than one week knows that this is a true statement.

What are ways that you work hard in your marriage?

"Marriage is the potential for an intense, deep and diverse intimacy. Sexual. Emotional. Relational." The hard work of marriage can pay off in many fruitful ways. God longs for people to live in intimate relationship with each other and of course with God. Marriage can be a beautiful picture of the intimacy God had in mind at the beginning of creation.

With a little work, you too can make your marriage marvelous ☺.

~Pastor Phil

Dr. Margaret Rutherford, "12 Things Marriage Is and 12 Things It Isn't" (http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-margaret-rutherford/marriage-lessons_b_5886790.html?utm_hp_ref=tw). Ibid.

Grace's Goodies

Savory Mushroom Tartlets

Served at September Staff Party.

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|---|---------------------------------|
| 48 thin white bread slices,
cut into 3-inch rounds | 1 cup whipping cream |
| 1/2 cup butter softened, divided | 2 TBS snipped chives |
| 3 TBS finely chopped green onions | 1 TBS minced fresh parsley |
| 1/2 lb. fresh mushrooms,
finely chopped | 1/2 tsp lemon juice |
| 2 TBS. all-purpose flour | 1/2 tsp salt |
| | 2 Tbs Parmesan cheese, optional |
| | Dash cayenne pepper |

Spread one side of bread with 1/4th cup butter, place buttered side up in lightly greased mini muffin cups. Bake at 400° for 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool 2 minutes before moving to wire racks. In a sauce pan sauté onions in remaining butter for 3 minutes. Add mushrooms; sauté for 10-12 minutes or until mushroom liquid has evaporated. Remove from the heat; stir in flour and cream until blended. Bring to a boil; boil and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Add chives, parsley, lemon juice, salt and cayenne; mix well. Cool slightly, place bread cups on a baking sheet; fill with mushroom mixture. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese if desired. Bake at 350° for 2 minutes or until lightly browned. Yield; 4 dozen.

Community Thanksgiving

It is only two more weeks till the **Goessel Community Thanksgiving Meal event! It is Sunday, November 16, at the Goessel Elementary School Gymnasium.** You are welcome to come and eat anytime between 5-6:30 p.m. The meal is **FREE**. Tell your community friends about it, invite them to come with you---help us make sure everyone in the Goessel community, both in town and in the country knows about this event and comes to join us for this delicious meal and the fellowship around the tables. Please consider signing up to bring a salad, bread or dessert, or a ham or turkey to help us provide the meal. The **Sign Up Deadline is next Sunday, Nov. 9. Please bring your turkey or ham to the church kitchen and put it in the refrigerator on November 9. Salads, breads and desserts may be brought to your church kitchen by noon on Sunday, Nov. 16 or to the Goessel Elementary school by 4:00 p.m. on that day. Monetary donations are welcome to help with expenses.** Just write your check out to "Goessel Ministerial Alliance" and give it to your church office. If you have questions, please contact a member of the Meal Planning Team: Keith and Barb Banman, Linda Peters, Janice (Delton) Voth, Becky Wedel, Lynette Duerksen. **There will be an opportunity at this event to give a donation to the Goessel Ministerial Alliance** to continue the ongoing ministry to help families in our community. Pastors Phil Schmidt, Brad Penner, Steve Schmidt, and Linda Ewert and Chaplain Gail Graber want to say a big "Thank you" to everyone for helping to make this event possible. ~Linda Ewert



Child Dedications in October



Daniel Reed Graber



Nathan Luke Goerzen



Ethan James Schmidt



OUTREACH MOMENT

52 walkers, runners and one biker gathered on October 5 at the Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church Shelter house to walk two or six miles for the Harvest Giving Walk. People from all ages took part, including four children who were pushed in strollers, to those over 70 years old. All joined together to raise money and awareness of one of the MCC projects which aides Syrian refugees. Maynard Knepp shared stories with us about the Syrian situation before we started on our walk. Area businesses donated money for participants to receive t-shirts made by Sleepy Robot (Jordan Woelk). Food was also collected from the walkers for the Tabor Food Pantry. The total amount raised was \$7,126.00 of which \$5,345.00 was distributed to MCC and \$1,781.00 to the Tabor Food Pantry. It's awesome to see the Goessel community continuing its tradition of strongly supporting overseas and local missions.

--Denise Nickel



Introducing... Tabor's Exchange Students

I am Benedikt. I am 15 years old and I come from Munich, Germany. I arrived in Goessel on the 14th of August so I have lived here for two months now which means eight more to come. I am attending the Goessel High School where I am part of the football team and will be on the Basketball and the Track and Field teams. In America I learned how much I enjoy such a small school with my German school having 460 students. This is the same with the Tabor Congregation. Being a part of this, I see how amazing it is to have such a family like atmosphere in your Church. For someone living here his whole life it might not seem like this, but compared to Munich where I have more than 3000 people in my congregation it is. At home I left my parents and my Sister Lea. She is 16 and goes to a business school where she will graduate in two years. I am living with Fred and Diane Unruh and my host brother Luke. We get along really well and I am already very, very thankful for the time I had and will have with them.



Hi my name is Maxine Keyse and I am the exchange student staying with Janna and Duane Duerksen. I am from the South Island of New Zealand in a city called Invercargill. Invercargill is quite different from Goessel, but it also has its similarities. Our weather is a lot wetter and quite cold, even during summer. We are coastal and our main industries are fishing and farming. My school at home is very different than school here as it is an all girls uniform school of just under 1500 students and over 150 teachers, that's more than we have students. So far I have had a great experience and I love the community. I am on the state team for cross country and FCCLA right now and plan to play basketball when the season starts which I am looking forward to. I am excited to be apart of the Tabor Church community, I have already made really good friends and had a lot of fun in youth group and Sunday school. I hope that I will be a valuable addition to the community and am happy to get to know more of you.

