



Pastor Doug's farewell on August 9



# Tabor Church News

September, 2015

## Phil's Ponderings



*"Jesus answered, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself'" (Luke 10:27).*

The above verse is one of our recently discerned 12 Scriptures and it is also a key verse that will help shape our Fall Adult Bible Study. On Wednesday evenings throughout this fall (September 23-December 16), we will be studying the book, *Missional Essentials: A Guide for Experiencing God's Mission in Your Life*, written by Brad Brisco and Lance Ford. This book includes 12 sessions for cultivating our missional life, and each session ends with practical action steps for mobilizing our faith community.

Here's a bit more from the authors about the book:

*"Missional Essentials...is written to help Christ followers rediscover the heart of God for our neighborhoods and communities. God invites us on a journey of going as the church rather than just coming to the church. The word 'missional' is simply the adjective form of the noun 'missionary.' It is used to describe people and churches who operate as missionaries in their local contexts. In a more comprehensive, classical definition of missionary, it describes a church that sees God's mission as the organizing principle that defines, shapes, and sends the church to participate in what God is already doing in the world."*<sup>1</sup>

In *Missional Essentials*, "Each lesson includes components that engage our heart and soul, mind, and strength, as we move forward on the missional quest of loving our neighbors as ourselves."<sup>2</sup>

I am very excited about this book/Bible Study and I look forward to what God's Spirit will do in and through us as we seek to more actively join God's mission in the world! This study is for all adults and we've already ordered 30 copies of the book! Please consider joining us for Wednesday evening Bible Study this fall in the Sanctuary overflow area beginning on September 23 at 6:45pm. On September 30, our full Wednesday Evening Ministry Activities begin, so from then on you can come for supper and even stay for choir! If you have any questions, please let me know.

~Pastor Phil

## Sunday Worship Themes

### September 6 - 12 Scriptures

*Faith without Works is Dead*

**James 2:14-17**

Pastor Phil preaching

### September 13 - 12 Scriptures

*Seek Peace and Pursue It*

**I Peter 3:8-11**

Pastor Phil preaching

### September 20 - Healing

*Church Campout*

**Luke 10:25-37**

Slickfester Dude

### September 27 - 12 Scriptures

*Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly*

**Micah 6:6-8**

Pastor Phil preaching

## from the staff...

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<sup>1</sup>Brad Brisco & Lance Ford, *Missional Essentials*, 4-5.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., 5.



### Back to School: Tabor's College Students

Bethel College

James Goerzen

Natalie Unruh

Josh Booth

Reece Hiebert

Hesston College

Brooke Haxton

Sarah Booth

Hutchinson Community College

Kellen Froese

Pittsburg State University

Carson Voth

University of Kansas

Mark Schmidt

### *Rosie's Reflections*

**Happy New Year!** No, I'm not losing it. I know it isn't January 1, but it is a new school year. Even though I am no longer closely connected to the school calendar, I am keenly aware of how it feels when a new school year rolls around. I always liked the feeling of a fresh, new start. I looked forward to getting a few new clothes (often made by mom), new shoes, and walking into the school building, smelling the familiar smells and seeing familiar faces. It wasn't just the teachers welcoming us back, but it was like the school building itself was ready for us too.

So how is this a new year for Tabor? I see many new things on the horizon. We are welcoming new and returning teachers for another great year of Sunday morning Faith Formation. We are eagerly discerning a new Associate Pastor. We are looking forward to seeing how the Financial Task Force will inspire us to give generously toward our new building project: a ground level fellowship hall and some exciting renovations. We are gearing up for a new year of Wednesday evening ministries beginning September 30.

I can't begin to name everything I'm excited for as we begin a "new year." However, there is one thing that tops the list, and that is the joy of our common bond through Christ. All the things I mentioned above are nothing without each of us belonging to the other, as Paul the apostle says, *"...and each member belongs to all the others."* Romans 12:5b.

~Pastor Rosie



**5:45-6:30 p.m. Supper**

**6:25 p.m. Welcome for everyone**

**6:30-6:45 p.m. Music for all ages** (age 3-K & gr. 1-8)

**6:40-7:40 p.m. Faithful Fitness**

**6:45-7:30 p.m. Faith Friends** (age 3, & age 4-K)

**6:45-8:00 p.m. Faith Adventure** (gr. 1-2 & 3-5)

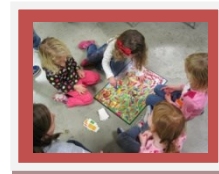
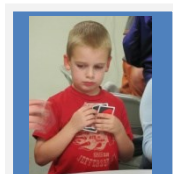
**Youth Explorers** (gr. 6-8)

**6:45-7:45 p.m. Adult Bible Study**

**7:00-8:00 p.m. TMYF** (Youth Group)

**7:45-8:45 p.m. Adult Choir**

Children **needing a ride** to and from Tabor Church on Wednesday evenings call the church at 620-367-2318 or Denise Nickel at 620-367-2226.



## Tabor Church Campout is coming on September 19-20!



*Who has these children captivated?*



*Slickfester Dude!*

Slickfester Dude, the big black story-telling cat, will be at the Tabor Church campout along with his person, Carol Duerksen. Together, they will talk about healing stories that Slick has observed in the animal world, that are told in the Bible, and that people have experienced today. People coming to the Campout are encouraged to recall their own stories of healing as well. Plan to be part of the retreat and register now!



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

John Gottman, marriage researcher, has written a book entitled *The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work*. Last month, we focused on Principle 1: "Enhance Your Love Maps."

The second of the seven principles is "nurture your fondness and admiration." Gottman says, "Fondness and admiration are two of the most crucial elements in a rewarding and long-lasting romance. Although happily married couples may feel driven to distraction at times by their partner's personality flaws, they still feel that the person they married is worthy of honor and respect. They cherish each other..."<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, "Having a fundamentally positive view of your spouse and your marriage is a powerful buffer when bad times hit."<sup>2</sup>

"At first, this may all seem obvious to the point of being ridiculous: People who are happily married like each other. If they didn't, they wouldn't be happily married. But fondness and admiration can be fragile unless you remain aware of how crucial they are to the friendship that is at the core of any good marriage. By simply reminding yourself of your spouse's positive qualities—even as you grapple with each other's flaws—you can prevent a happy marriage from deteriorating. The simple reason is that fondness and admiration are antidotes for contempt. If you maintain a sense of respect for your spouse, you are less likely to act disgusted with him or her when you disagree. So fondness and admiration prevent you from being trounced by the four horsemen."<sup>3</sup>

*Continued next column*

<sup>1</sup>Excerpt From: John Gottman Ph.D. & Nan Silver. "The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work." iBooks. <https://itun.es/us/GtdG2.1>

<sup>2</sup>Ibid.

<sup>3</sup>Ibid.



### Grace's Goodies

Marinated Mozeralla  
*Served at staff get together.*

- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1 Tbs. chopped oil-packed, sun-dried tomatoes
- 1 Tbs. minced fresh parsley
- 1 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 tsp. dried basil
- 1 tsp. minced chives
- 1/4 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 # cubed part-skim mozzarella cheese

In a large resealable plastic bag combine the first seven ingredients; add cheese cubes. Seal bag and turn to coat; refrigerate at least 30 min. or more. Transfer marinated cheese cubes to serving bowl or platter; serve with party picks.  
Yield: 8-10 servings.

**Marriage Challenge:** Enhance your fondness and admiration for your spouse by meditating on what makes you treasure him or her, intentionally focusing on your partner's positive qualities, and regularly expressing sincere appreciation to your spouse.

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

~Pastor Phil



## Tabor Mennonite Church

### *Devotional*

12 Scriptures  
Joshua 24:14-15

## Choose Who You Will Serve

Elaine Schroeder

Wars and rumors of wars. A theme deeply embedded in the American story. A theme deeply embedded in my own story.

Born on the Great Trek (the journey of some Mennonites from Russia to Turkey and then the United States), my grandfather, Peter J. Quiring, came to the United States as a child. When he became a young adult, he soon realized that even this country was no refuge for a pacifist. In 1918, he was drafted and reported to Camp Travis, Texas.

In letters written to his bride of two months, Helena Dalke Quiring, he wrote of his fears and his faith as he and the other young men taking a stand against serving in the military were arrested, court marshaled, and sentenced to Fort Leavenworth in Kansas. He concluded: "The work which the President finally has declared as non-combatant actually belongs to the war-machine, as active service. We as Mennonites, and Christians, cannot take part in that. Those who have sworn loyalty to Christ's banner once and for all, cannot, according to my conviction, swear loyalty to a fleshly matter, without renouncing Christ's banner. The more I read in God's word, the clearer it comes to me that we must take a firm stand, regardless of what the consequences may be."

In a peace testimony written in 1992, my father, Norman Kroeker, wrote, "In the early 1940s, the U.S. government began making plans to implement the draft for military conscription for World War II. The three peace churches, the Mennonites, Quakers, and the Church of the Brethren, were very concerned. The leaders of these churches asked to have an audience with President Roosevelt to seek an alternative to being drafted into the army. They were given a five minute appointment. They picked the most persuasive speaker and got the speech down to five minutes. When they were through, President Roosevelt started asking questions. When he was through, twenty-five minutes had passed by. This led to a provision in the draft for conscientious objectors to war. They were drafted to do work of national importance instead."

In August 1942, my father was drafted into Civilian Public Service. He wrote: "I kissed my sweetheart good-bye and boarded the train. I hadn't the slightest idea what lay ahead for me."

It was at this time that he chose the verse he leaned upon all his life: Philippians 4:11 where Paul says "I've learned to be content whatever my circumstances."

He continued, "After three and one half years of digging fence post holes, digging ditches for drainage tiles, picking green beans, hoeing, thinning and harvesting sugar beets, surveying for terraces and irrigation ditches, fighting forest fires, working in a soils laboratory, sleeping, working, arguing, and rubbing shoulders with thirty-six different religious persuasions, and being bitten by a Black Widow spider, I received my discharge from service.

"After three years of marriage, Verna (Dalke) and I and our two daughters were able to establish our own home."

Left out of these narratives is what the wives and families endured. While my grandfather was in prison and my grandmother waited for her husband to come home, her parents, a number of her siblings and many community members decided to emigrate from the United States to Canada. She had to decide whether to go with them or stay behind in Oklahoma. Fortunately she was able to live with a brother until Grandpa came home.

My father wrote, "It was harder for wives and parents than it was for us. We were told when to go to bed, when to get up, what and when to eat, and when and where to work."

My parents were able to live together briefly, but most of the time they were separated and my mother lived either with her parents or with her parents-in-law.

The time of testing during World War II marked my young parents in a positive way. They referred to it often as they raised their family. We always knew that when the time comes to choose who to follow, we had before us an example.