

Tabor Mennonite Church

January 10, 2016

Congregational Announcements

TMYF Shopping for Food Pantry: The Youth Group will be shopping for the Tabor Food Pantry on Wednesday, January 13. We will plan to leave the church building around 6:45 to drive to Dillons in Newton to shop for items for the food pantry. Please plan to bring \$10 per person to help purchase items for the pantry. (If money is an issue, please let Pastor Katherine know, for we want everyone to be able to attend!)

A Catechism Class will take place January-May 2016 for those discerning the possibility of being baptized. Pastors Katherine and Phil will be facilitating this class. Our first session will be next Sunday, January 17 at church from 6-8pm. Supper will be provided. Please bring your calendars, as we will schedule dates for upcoming sessions. If you are interested in joining this class, please contact Pastor Katherine or Pastor Phil.

A Membership Meal will take place on May 1st in conjunction with the last session of catechism. Please contact Pastor Phil if you are interested in joining Tabor as a member. Baptisms and welcoming new members will take place on Pentecost Sunday (May 15, 2016).

Stories & Stuff: Join us on Thursday, January 21, at 10 a.m. We're excited to include a time for children too! **Adults** will meet in the South rooms, and **children** will have story time in the nursery with Pastor Phil and Kim Funk. **Adults**, please bring something that tells a story about you. It can be from your past, present or even something in your future. It can be a picture, a hobby, a painting, a quilt, a project, or anything that gives us a little insight into who you are? It doesn't have to be a big production, just a few minutes is fine. Let's see what we can learn from each other. We're looking forward to a great time! Join us!

Ministry Reporting Sunday will take place during the worship service on January 24. There will be a Vote of Affirmation for Pastor Rosie immediately following. Plan to stay for the potluck fundraiser meal served by the Tabor Mennonite Youth Fellowship. A dessert auction to benefit the youth will follow, so come prepared to bid on your favorite dessert!

January 31 is Tabor Mission Sunday: The Outreach Committee welcomes Wes and Deb Bergen, our Mennonite Mission Network partners, who will be sharing their experiences in Ghana during the Worship Service and Faith Formation time. Following FF, we invite everyone to stay for a potluck noon meal. A basket will be set out to collect donations for our commitment to our new mission partners, Dan and Kathryn Smith Derksen and family, who will soon begin their service opportunity in Capetown, South Africa. Read more about this partnership which was emailed to you or is in your mailbox. The information is also posted on the church bulletin board.

College Care Packages: The High School Youth will be assembling care packages for Tabor's college students on February 3. If you would like to include some goodies for these, please speak with Pastor Katherine. Thanks for your support of our congregation's young adults!

Potlucks! In addition to the Mission Potluck on January 31st, plan to bring a favorite dish for a Fellowship Potluck after church on Sunday, February 21.

Anabaptist Visioning and Discipleship Series (AVDS) is taking place at Hesston College February 19-21. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to go. Christian Education Commission and Worship Fellowship Commission are each contributing to the cost of this conference, so the total cost per congregant will be only \$25! Please sign up on the bulletin board. *See additional announcement on back page.*

2016 WELLNESS AND FITNESS CHALLENGES!

I would like to introduce two new programs to help keep you motivated for healthy lifestyles in the new year!

MONTHLY WELLNESS CHALLENGES

These will be offered monthly utilizing a variety of different health and wellness related challenge topics. Current challenges will be posted on the display in the foyer with the necessary form and instructions. Some of these will be partner based, completion of the challenge is not mandatory, and they should all be a lot of fun. Challenges will be turned into the new "Wellness" mailbox by the end of each month with prizes being awarded to randomly selected participants. Additional prizes will be awarded for multiple challenge participation at the end of the year.

TO PARTICIPATE: Check the wellness display for monthly challenges, attempt the challenge, return form (complete or incomplete) to the "Wellness" mailbox (located lower right, east facing boxes).

2016 FITNESS CHALLENGE

We will be embarking on another year long fitness specific challenge to accumulate total activity for the year! This year all tracking will be done using the website/app MAPMYFITNESS (www.mapmyfitness.com). I have set up a private group just for Tabor member participants to offer accountability and encouragement for each other. Although we will continue to hold the Wednesday evening Faithful Fitness class ANYONE can participate in this challenge by simply logging their daily activity at any time. Nearly any continuous form of activity will qualify from the literally hundreds of options to choose from on the website (walking, vacuuming, cycling, mowing, etc) as long as you perform at least 15min of continuous activity IT COUNTS!

TO PARTICIPATE: Create an account at www.mapmyfitness.com and send a "Friend Request" to Kevin Nickel and you will be sent an invite to the Tabor Church Group. You can also email Kevin and he will send you instructions or answer questions (kevinnickel@hotmail.com).

I look forward to building healthier lifestyles in the new year! -Kevin Nickel

Notes of Appreciation

Thank you very much for your gift to MCC this past holiday season. We are so grateful for your support in this way. It is because of your generosity that MCC can work for peace with our partners all over the world. Your gift is helping to make a difference in places like Honduras, where MCC supports peace education in schools, equipping students to better deal with the violence surrounding them and to choose peace. Blessings to you in 2016!

-Anna Yoder, Donor Relations Coordinator

Community Announcements

Harvey County Homeless Shelter volunteer training at the shelter, 900 W. Broadway, Building #7, Tues., Jan. 12th, 6:30 pm. Meet the volunteer coordinator, gain knowledge of available volunteer opportunities, learn about the shelter and the residents that we serve. No RSVP required. We hope to see you there!

Mennonite Heritage & Agricultural Museum Annual Meeting:

Rachel Pannabecker will be our special speaker at the annual meeting of the Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum, January 17, at Goessel Mennonite Church. The meeting will begin at 2:30 p.m. with a short business meeting. Rachel, the Collections & Special Projects Manager at Kaufman Museum, will speak on "Three Vital Secrets of Small Museums" following the meeting. Fasma will be served after Rachel's presentation. Museum memberships will be available upon your arrival.

Attention all Dillons Community Rewards Program participants –

It is time for the annual renewal for Dillons shoppers to re-enroll in the program for purchases to be credited to Bethesda Home and for Dillons to contribute to the Bethesda Benevolent Care Fund. As of midnight 12/31/15 everyone currently enrolled will be deleted. You will need to log on to dillons.com/communityrewards and sign in with your user name and password that you created for this account and enter 10035 (or select Bethesda Home) as your organization of choice to receive the Dillons donation. If you have not already enrolled in this program, log on to the same Dillons web site and "Create an account", then follow the steps. Contact either Pete Flaming or Terri Walker if you need assistance in re-enrolling or creating an account for this easy way for Bethesda to receive contributions from Dillons at no cost to you – but by just swiping your "Plus Shoppers Card".

Conference Announcements

Prayer Requests:

- ★ Western District Conference: Give thanks for WDC congregations extending support and hospitality to refugees and immigrants seeking a home.
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: Odessa Theological Seminary is closed for four months during the winter to save on heating costs. Pray for Mary Raber of Mennonite Mission Network as she prepares courses for classes scheduled to resume in March.

In honor of the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr., Bethel College offers two special events: Sunday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m. – screening of *In Prison My Whole Life*, an award-winning 2007 documentary on the court case of imprisoned political activist Mumia Abu-Jamal, with open discussion to follow with Jerrell Williams, director of Prison Ministries for OVM-Newton; Monday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m. – "The New Jane Crow," a program with keynote speaker Michelle Armster, executive director of Mennonite Central Committee - Central States. Both events are in *Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center*, and both are free and open to the public with a freewill offering taken Monday to support the work of Newton Community for Racial Justice.

WDC Women in Mission will sponsor a Sister Care Weekend at Bethel College Mennonite Church, 2600 College Ave in North Newton on January 29 and 30. Come spend Friday evening (7-9 pm) and Saturday (9 am-4:30 pm) at a seminar that will provide tools for ongoing personal healing, for recognizing and celebrating God's grace in our lives, and for responding more confidently and effectively to the needs of others. Registration can be found on the WDC website (<http://mennowdc.org/sister-care-seminar-january-29-30-2016/>) or contact: Pam Schrag 317-217-1448; schragps52@gmail.com or Nancy Krehbiel 620-245-2471, stevekrehb@mtelco.net. Register before January 11 for an early bird discount.

Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series: Ordinary radical, author and speaker Shane Claiborne will be the featured speaker at Hesston College's 2016 Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series conference Feb. 19 to 21. The conference, Not Just on Sunday, will explore what it means to be a 24/7 disciple of Christ. Discover spiritual practices that empower us to change the world. Work at the balance of being and doing. Dig deeper into practices that bring transformation.

Youth and adults are encouraged to participate as the weekend will feature tracks for Congregational Life led by Claiborne and Youth Ministry led by Nes Espinosa, executive director of Timoteo Football Philadelphia, which supports communities by empowering men to mentor youth through athletics and spiritual formation.

For a full schedule, registration and speaker information, visit the Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series on the web.

The fifth concert of the 2015-16 Prairie Window Concert Series, featuring Walnut Valley Festival legends Betse & Ike, formerly of The Wilders, will be Sunday, January 17 at 4 p.m. at the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston. Join us for an evening of great music and good food in a prairie garden setting. Tickets: \$20 adults/\$10 kids, plus tax. Arboretum members receive a 10% discount. Call [620-327-8127](tel:620-327-8127) to reserve your seats.