

Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXII

July 16, 2017

No. 29



Community is the Center of our Life: Celebrating Our Diversity

We affirm with Peter that God shows no partiality, and that everyone who reveres the Lord and does what is right is acceptable to God. Though we differ in many ways, we each contain a part of God's Truth, though none of us can see God's Truth in full. Our diversity is a gift that helps to strengthen the body of Christ. "For just as the body is one and has many members, so all the members of the body, though many, are one body."

GATHERING AND PRAISING

PRELUDE		Russell Adrian
WELCOME & CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS		Eric Litwiller
RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL AND LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP		
*CALL TO WORSHIP	<i>from I Corinthians 12 and 13</i>	
*GATHERING HYMN	<i>"Come, let us all unite to sing"</i>	No. 12
*GATHERING PRAYER		
*HYMN OF PRAISE	<i>"Praise with joy the world's Creator"</i>	No. 16 STJ
*PASSING THE PEACE	<i>The Peace of Christ be with you ~ and also with you.</i>	

PROCLAIMING

OFFERING OUR GIFTS		
CHILDREN'S STORY		Carrie Unruh
WORSHIP MUSIC	<i>"I Choose Christ"</i>	DeVon Hiebert
SCRIPTURE READING	<i>Acts 10: 34-48</i>	Peter Goerzen and Sharon Adrian
	The Word of God for the people of God ~ Thanks be to God!	
SERMON	<i>"Celebrating Diverse Perspectives"</i>	Jayce Yoder

RESPONDING

*HYMN OF RESPONSE	<i>"There are many gifts"</i>	No. 304
FAITH TESTIMONY		Tabor Mennonite Youth Group
HYMN OF PRAYER	<i>"Help us to help each other"</i>	-vs. 1 & 4 No. 362
CONGREGATIONAL SHARING AND PRAYER		Pastor Phil Schmidt

SENDING

*SENDING HYMN	<i>"Renew your church"</i>	No. 363
*BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE		

Today

We are so glad you are here with us to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Eric and Jill Litwiller and family and Kenton and Eunice Nickel and family. *A special welcome is extended to all visitors.*

At the back of the sanctuary there is a quiet room for infants and mothers, as well as a toddler nursery for those age three and under, staffed today by Mandy Funk.

In the pew pockets are **Welcome Cards** and **Prayer Request Cards**. If you are visiting Tabor, please fill out a **Welcome Card** and return it in the offering bag. If you have a prayer request or praise item, please fill out a **Prayer Request Card** and return to a Pastor's mailbox.

10:45 a.m.—Faith Formation for everyone. Anabaptist Essentials: please read chapter 4. Also, Tabor delegates to MC USA Convention, Pastor Phil, Peter Goerzen and Eric Litwiller, will share some reflections from the Future Church Summit at convention. We will meet in rooms 112 & 113.

This Week

Tuesday, July 18

10:00 a.m.—Staff Meeting

9a.m. - 12p.m.—Tabor Mennonite Women at MCC Workroom in N. Newton

7:00 p.m.—Christian Education meeting

7:30 p.m.—Worship Planning Team

Wednesday, July 19

5:30 p.m.—Faithful Fitness

Wednesday, July 19-Tuesday, July 25

Tabor serves at New Hope Shelter

Thursday, July 20

Newsletter items are due

Next Sunday, July 23

9:30 a.m.—Next Sunday as we transition from "Community is the Center of our Life" to "Reconciliation is the Center of our Work," we will participate in an experiment during our worship service. Children will meet in the basement South Rooms for "Children's Church" while Youth and Adults meet in the Fellowship Hall around round tables so that we have opportunity to enter into round-table discussion on the themes of community and reconciliation during the service. We will also celebrate communion together as a symbol of our unity even amidst diverse perspectives.

10:45 a.m.— Faith Formation for everyone. Youth and adults are invited to remain in the Fellowship Hall for continued dialogue. Children will meet as usual.

Prayer Requests

The following requests were shared on Sunday, July 9.

- ★ Carrie Smith shared on behalf of the Financial Task Force. As we speed toward the end of the first phase of this project, may we persevere in prayer as we continue to discern, talk with one another, and dream together. Lord hear our prayers for wisdom and integrity; may God's will be done as we seek next steps.
- ★ Pastor Katherine shared how meaningful it was to spend a week with the youth in Orlando. Thanks be to God for the gifts, passion, faith, and lives of the young people in our church!

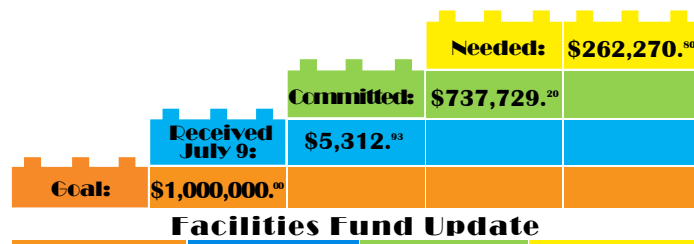
Remember to Pray for:

- ★ Children attending camp this summer. Lord, hear our prayer.
- ★ Caring Quilt Locations: The caring quilt is home. The children's quilt is home.

Remember to Praise God for:

OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE July 9, 2017			
Offering	= \$ 4,042.65	Attendance	= 125
Adult F.F.	= \$ 18.00	Attendance	= 80
Jr. F.F.	= \$ 5.90		

Budget Update: Budget through July 9: \$164,976.00
Actual giving through July 9: \$139,732.47
Shortfall \$ 25,243.53



“Celebrating Diverse Perspectives”

How can we celebrate differing perspectives when they so often are the cause of much tension and discomfort? Diversity can be very valuable and rewarding, but it comes with many challenges. Some challenges include disagreements that seem to be impossible to resolve because common ground is so difficult to find. Disagreements in which commonalities are scarce, are the most challenging to overcome. However, overcoming these challenges has the potential to lead to greater unity and energy in the church. Instead of viewing conflict as a hindrance, let us look at it as a source for learning and growth. Judgement and division do not have to conclude stories of diverse perspectives within the body of Christ. Instead, let us strive to open our minds, listen to different viewpoints, and acknowledge other stances with love. We are all united through Jesus, something we should always remember as we seek to learn from each other in order to expand our understandings of God.

Sermon Notes



Tabor Mennonite Church

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

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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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Deacons:

Shelley Buller
Denise Nickel

Nathan Graber
Ron Schroeder

Barb Abrahams
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