

Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXII

December 31, 2017

No. 53



My Eyes Have Seen Your Salvation!

As we come together to worship this morning, let us sing together with Simeon, "Our eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation for the nations and for the glory of your people!"

GATHERING AND PRAISING

PRELUDE Susan Merrifield

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Leann Toews

RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL AND LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP

*CALL TO WORSHIP *based on Simeon's Song*

*GATHERING HYMNS "Oh, how joyfully" No. 209
"Good Christian friends, rejoice" No. 210
Deloris Schmidt, accompanist

*GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE "To us a child of hope is born" No. 189

*PASSING THE PEACE *The Peace of Christ be with you ~ and also with you.*

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

PROCLAIMING

CHILDREN'S STORY Jill Litwiller

WORSHIP MUSIC "Not that far from Bethlehem" Michelle Unruh
-Jeff Borders, Gayla Borders, Lowell Alexander

SCRIPTURE READING *Luke 2:22-40* Nathan Ashley and Luke Unruh
The Word of God for the people of God ~ **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "A Light for Revelation" Pastor Phil Schmidt

RESPONDING

*HYMN OF RESPONSE "Simeon's Song" Tune: No. 195

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING AND PRAYER

SENDING

*SENDING HYMNS "Lo, how a rose e'er blooming" -vs. 1 & 3 No. 211
"Joy to the world" No. 318

*BENEDICTION & 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 Phil and Sarahanne Unruh and family and Hayden and Heidi Goerzen. A *special welcome is extended to all visitors*.

At the back of the sanctuary there is a quiet room for infants and mothers, and a toddler nursery for those age three and under, staffed today by Carrie and Lewis Unruh

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.

Fellowship time will follow our morning worship in the fellowship hall. Please bring Christmas goodies to share. Drinks will be provided.

This Week

Tuesday, January 2

9:15 a.m.—Community Prayer

10:00 a.m.—Staff meeting

7:00 p.m.—Deacon meeting

Wednesday, January 3

5:45 p.m.—Wednesday Evening Pizza and Board Game Night

Thursday, January 4

12:00 p.m.—Newton Lunch Bunch

Next Sunday, January 7

9:30 a.m.—Next Sunday we continue our study of the Gospel of Luke by beginning a new worship series entitled "The Upside Down King." (This worship series will continue through Easter, following the curriculum that Carol Duerksen put together based on the Upside Down King Musical.) Scripture Focus for January 7 will be Luke 24:13-27 and Pastor Phil will be preaching.

10:45 a.m.—Faith Formation for everyone.

Prayer Requests

The following prayer requests were shared on Sunday, December 24.

- ★ Myron Voth shared an update about the financial task force and that he had a "bring it on, God" sense of calling to participate in the task force. Thanks be to God for the generosity of our congregation, for Myron's strong sense of call to serve on this task force, and for all who have given of their time and talents for the sake of this building project! Lord, hear our prayer for guidance as we discern end of year giving and steps going forward.

Remember to Pray for:

- ★ Caring Quilt Locations: The caring quilts are home.
- ★ All who are recovering from illness or grieving the loss of loved ones. Lord, hear our prayer.

Remember to Praise God for:

- ★ The gift of Jesus' birth and God's upside down kingdom that he came to reveal!

Dates to Remember:

Jan. 19-20: WDC Year of Evangelism Kick-Off at Alexanderwohl
 Jan 28: Congregational Facilities Consensus Building Conversation
 Feb. 11: Congregational meeting



GOAL = \$1,000,000

Committed = \$869,403

\$130,597 Still Needed

This week's receipts:

New Contributions = \$5,250

Funds for pledge fulfillment = \$750

Tabor Trading Post Fundraiser = \$130

OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

December 24, 2017

Offering = \$ 5,688.80	Attendance = 202
Adult F.F. = \$ 28.00	Attendance = 61
Jr. F.F. = \$ 16.19	Attendance = 38

Christmas Eve ~ Offering for MCC Relief Kits

Offering = \$ 1,406.00	Attendance = 292
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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:

Nathan Graber

Ron Schroeder

Barb Abrahams

Maynard Knepp

Carol Duerksen

Erica Stoltzfus