

May 6, 2018 Tabor Church Groundbreaking for the New Addition

# Sunday Worship Themes

#### June 3 - Reading the Bible with Jesus:

Transfiguration
Luke 9:28-36
Pastors Rosie preaching

**June 10 - Bible School Celebration** *Peace Lab* 

#### June 17 - Reading the Bible with Jesus:

Love God and Neighbor Luke 10:25-37 Pastor Phil preaching

#### June 24 - Reading the Bible with Jesus:

Sign of Jonah Luke 11:29-32 Pastor Phil preaching

# Children's Summer Faith Formation

June 3 - Finger Food Fellowship

June 10 - Bible School Celebration

June 17 - God Creates the World

June 24 - Trust in God's Care

July 1 - Finger Food Fellowship

July 8 - Peace For All

July 15 - Field Trip to Farm

FF leaders & parents welcome

July 22 - Let There Be Light!

July 29 - WDC at Alexander wohl No services at Tabor

August 5 - Finger Food Fellowship

**August 12 -** Vine and Branches

August 19 - Sower and Seed

August 26 - Celebrating the Harvest

see article on page 2

# **Tabor Church News**

June, 2018

Rosie's Reflections:

# Pray for Peace - Act for Peace

Summer 2018 Faith Formation for Youth and Adults



Plans are being made for adults and high school youth to gather together during Tabor's Faith Formation hour for a summer of vibrant and thoughtful discussion around the theme of gun violence. Tabor's pastors, Peter Goerzen, and John Sharp will lead and facilitate these difficult discussions around the themes listed on the schedule below. How are we called individually and collectively, as people of God's peace, to "Pray for peace - Act for peace" in a world filled with violence? MCC's curriculum, "Preventing Gun Violence" seems especially pertinent for the times in which we live. How have we experienced violence in our own lives, families, neighborhoods and communities? How has violence shaped our own stories? What does the Bible say about violence and peace? What is our role in bringing about possible solutions for breaking these deadly cycles of violence? Please join us for Faith Formation this summer!

Date	Theme	Facilitator
6/3	Finger Food Fellowship	
6/10	Bible School Picnic	
6/17	Hearing Our Stories	Pastors
6/24	Preventing Gun Violence: Overview	Pastor Phil
7/1	Finger Food Fellowship	
7/8	Preventing Gun Violence: Biblical Views on Violence and Peace	Peter Goerzen
7/15	Preventing Gun Violence: Biblical Views on Violence and Peace	Peter Goerzer
7/22	Preventing Gun Violence: Biblical Views on Violence and Peace	Peter Goerzer
7/29	Western District Conference Worship Service at Alexanderwohl	
8/5	Finger Food Fellowship	
8/12	Preventing Gun Violence: Policy Solutions to Break a Deadly Cycle; Getting Involved and Taking Action	Pastors
8/19	Reflections and Review	Pastors
8/26	One Life at a Time: The Michael J. Sharp Story (1982-2017)	John Sharp

### Parent and Child Dedications



JJ and Megan Voth and Karson Leonard

#### **Graduate Student**



Reece Hiebert graduated from Bethel College. He will be attending Washburn University this fall pursuing a degree in law.

## **Exchange Students**



Luca Franken, from Germany, spent the past school year with Lewis and Carrie Unruh. Luca says: "Youth group was a big part that made me happy. I could rely on everyone

in my youth group and we had a fun time. I will continue to go to school for two more years to be a policeman."



Juan Aguilar, from Spain, spent the school year with Nathan and Brandy Ashley. Juan has a year of high school remaining and then hopes to attend a university in Spain and major in Engineering.

He is excited that he was asked to join an American-style football team in Spain and has already started practice!

# Phil's Ponderings:

## "JoinHands"

Tabor Church Family, we are journeying through an exciting time in the life of our congregation:

- We broke ground and are witnessing the construction of our building project!
- We are pooling our resources with the hope of paying for the project without taking out a mortgage!
- We are envisioning new ways to use the space and embody our mission of extending hospitality, healing, and hope to all people!

Yes indeed, it is an exciting time to be a part of the Tabor faith family!

In addition to the above, we have another exciting opportunity to embrace. Throughout the building project process over the past several years, several people have raised our church's value of supporting ministries outside of our local community. We don't want to become too inward focused, but hope we can continue to extend hospitality, healing, and hope beyond our community to needs around the world. A few weeks ago, Clarence Remple came to me with the option of supporting Mennonite Men's JoinHands ministry, which provides grants to churches who are seeking to purchase or build their first meeting place. For more information, please see the letter from Mennonite Men, which is in your church mailbox.

As we seek to complete the funding for our building project, I invite you to also discern if you as an individual or a family would like to support the building of other churches around the country and around the world. Personally, I am energized by the work of JoinHands and I hope we as individuals and a community can find ways to support this important ministry in these next months and years. Onward!

~Pastor Phil

#### Children's Summer Faith Formation

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing!
Alleluia!

Children, please make plans to attend Tabor's Faith Formation hour this summer. The Bible stories and activities will focus on Shine's summer curriculum, "God's Creation." Carol Duerksen and Marcene Entz are our storytellers, with others planning activities and providing snacks each week. Please note that on Sunday, July 15, we'll be taking a field trip to visit the "green pastures and still waters" of Carol and Maynard's farm.

(bonus question for the kids -- where in the Bible do we read about, "green pastures and still waters?") Parents of small children are encouraged to accompany their children on field trip day!

We're looking forward to a great summer of fun as we learn all about God's Creation! We hope you can join us!

Grace and peace, Rosie

# Katherine's Candor

## "Fruit that will last: Reflections of a parent after reading John 15"

Having children is, for me, simultaneously the most joy-filled and the most heart -wrenching thing that has ever happened to me.

It fills me with joy to participate in the life-giving creativity of God by bringing new life and new hope into the world and to watch our children wonder and delight in the goodness of God's creation.

It rends my heart to read through my news feed and to see all of the pain, violence, and hatred within the world, and to worry about all of the possible ways our children could be hurt or exposed to this hatred.

It fills me with joy to receive the love and grace that they give so freely. It is through their love for me and my love for them that I most fully understand the steadfast and unconditional love of God.

It rends my heart to see some of my worst tendencies emerge when they're squabbling with one another or when I'm overwhelmed by the messiness of life with small children and I respond out of anxiety rather than abiding love.

It fills me with joy to see the many ways that they embody the fruits of the Spirit, and to see the ways their lives are already glorifying God.

It rends my heart to see the ways that the world is already trying to make them one of its own by seeking to mold our children in the ways of this world rather than the ways of Jesus.

The faith we are trying to instill in our children is simultaneously joy-filled and heart-wrenching to me as well. It fills me with joy to see their faith shine through in their prayers and songs of praise. It fills me with joy to see their faith emerge in their actions when they care for a friend. It fills me with joy to see their faith when they choose to respond with the abiding love of God.

However, it rends my heart to know that this faith that we are trying to instill within them might lead to their being ostracized from their peers because they befriend the friendless or speak up against demeaning talk about those who are different. It rends my heart to think that their faith might lead to persecution because they practice enemy love rather than seeking revenge. It rends my heart to think their faith might take such deep root that they, like M.J. Sharp and many others throughout the centuries, would be willing to lay down their lives for the sake of God's Kingdom.

I struggle between wanting them to be faithful, no matter the cost, and the strong parental urge to keep them safe and protect them from the pain of the world. I love our children completely and it is devastating to see them hurting. Yet as a follower of Jesus, I long to teach our children that it is more important to choose to befriend the friendless, to speak out for the oppressed, and to practice enemy love than it is to be popular and successful in the eyes of the world.

As parents, isn't it ultimately our goal to instill within our children a faith that is so much a part of who they are, that they willingly choose the ways of God's love over the ways of this world, even if they may suffer the consequences? And isn't it also our role as parents, when they face these consequences, to comfort them, to remind them how deeply they are loved, and to let them know that what they are doing has lasting effects in the Kingdom of God?

There are times when I fall short of my own parenting expectations, but I am grateful for the love of my children and the grace of God, which strengthen me to continue this messy and holy task of parenting. May the grace and love of God continue to abound.

~Pastor Katherine



#### **Tabor Mennonite Women**

The excitement for the mystery supper started when thirty-eight women traveled to McPherson. We had supper at Knackie's and then we heard a presentation by the employees of The Stone Chimney from McPherson. They showed us the artificial succulents they carry at their store and also some of the arrangements that they have for sale, and then how to put together an arrangement. We then went to The Stone Chimney for some shopping! It was a fun evening of fellowship in the car and during the meal.

--Elaine Unruh & Eileen Schmidt, reporting

# Tabor Mennonite Church 2018 Budget Goals Quarterly Giving Goals: Actual Giving: 4th quarter: \$272,796 Ends November 30 3rd quarter: \$204,597 Ends August 31 2nd quarter: \$136,398 Ended May 31 1st quarter: \$68,199 Ended February 28



NICE WORK

Copyright © 2015 HarperCollins Christian Publishing

# Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

Matthew M. Hurst, age 24, of Gordonville, PA, passed away on Monday, April 30, 2018, as a result of a vehicle accident in York County. He was born in Ft. Worth, TX, son of Ray N. and Brenda Martin Hurst of Glenmoore, PA and his biological mother Leslie Thomas wife of Roberto DeSantiago of Mineral Wells, TX. He graduated from the Center for Arts and Technology, Pickering Campus and had attended UTI of Exton. He worked for Little Washington Fabricators, Inc. of Christiana. Matt loved bull riding, working on trucks, riding four wheelers and traveling.

He is also survived by his girlfriend Eleanor R. Zurlo of Gordonville and their daughter Meara Zurlo, 2 brothers: Zach, husband of Alicia Hertzler Hurst of Lancaster, Casey Eller of Texas, half siblings: Allen Thomas, Alexis and Brightin DeSantiago all of Texas, and grandparents Noah S. and Mary Graybill Hurst of Ephrata.



A celebration of life service was held at the Frazer Mennonite Church, Frazer, PA on Saturday, May 5th.

In honor of Matthew Hurst, son of former pastors Ray and Brenda Martin Hurst, some of his ashes will be scattered near a tree planted in his memory. This will take place on June 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Russ and Barb Abrahams. Anyone is welcome to join us. ~Russ and Barb



# Jr. High Camp WaShunGa

Once again, we had an amazing weekend at Camp Washunga! The weather was really hot but it was nice to cool off in the pool! The food and snacks were delicious and the discussion was life-giving. Please ask the junior highers for more highlights and memories from their time at camp! Thank you to all who prayed for our junior highers leading up to and during that weekend. And a big thank you to those who donated snacks or hammers, or money to allow us to attend. We are blessed to be a part of a community that supports its youth!



# Tabor Church Vacation Bible School

June 4-8 8:30 - 11:45 a.m.

Celebration Service
~ June 10 ~
Picnic in the Park

All children ages 4 - grade 6 are invited