



Coins for MCC Relief Sale

Sunday Worship Themes

April 7 - Journey Forward:

Witness to God's Peace (Lent 5)
Micah 4:1-4; Isaiah 2:2-4;
Matthew 26:47-56
Pastor Phil preaching

April 14 - Journey Forward:

Experience Transformation
Palm Sunday
Mark 1:9-11; Mark 11:1-11
Pastor Phil preaching

April 18 - Holy Week Service

Maundy Thursday
Meal and Service

April 21 - Journey Forward:

Experience Transformation
Easter Sunday
TBD
Pastor Katherine preaching

April 28 - Who is God?

Laughing God
TBD
Pastor Phil preaching

Tabor Church News

April, 2019

Phil's Ponderings:

"Holy Week"

We are in the midst of the season of Lent. Lent is the 40 days (not including Sundays) before Easter. 40 days reminds us of Jesus' time of fasting, prayer, and testing in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. Many followers of Jesus throughout the centuries and today focus on practices of prayer, fasting, and giving throughout this season. The climax of Lent is Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday, includes Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and finds completion on Easter Sunday. Here are some details for Holy Week 2019 at Tabor:

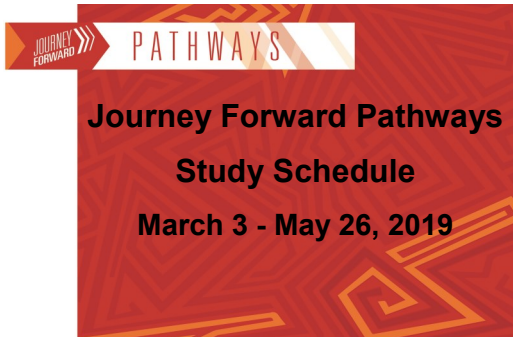
- *Palm Sunday (April 14)*: Children will bring in palm branches at the beginning of the worship service, and later in the service we will celebrate the work of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and reflect on the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale, which will have taken place earlier that weekend.
- *Maundy Thursday (April 18)*: We invite everyone to join in a simple meal and communion service around the cross in the fellowship hall. As we observe the last supper that Jesus shared with his disciples before his death and resurrection, we acknowledge that this meal will be one of our last suppers in the basement fellowship hall. Thus, we will take time to reflect on meaningful experiences of fellowship and worship that have happened in the space.
- *Easter Sunday (April 21)*: We invite everyone to come to our Easter Breakfast as well as our Easter Worship service celebrating Christ's resurrection from the dead!

I hope you have already found Lent to be a meaningful season of prayer and reflection, and I hope you will join us for our special Holy Week worship services!

~Peace, Pastor Phil

JOURNEY
FORWARD





2: Follow Jesus

4/7 2.3 Baptism in the Believers' Church

3: Witness to God's Peace

4/14 3.1 Living as Witnesses
(in your class setting)

4/21 Easter (Classes will not meet)

4/28 3.2 God's Gift of Peace

5/5 3.3 Christ's Redemption of the World

4: Experience Transformation

5/12 4.1 Living and Worshiping Together

5/19 4.2 The Power of the Holy Spirit

**5/26 4.3 Revealing God's Beauty -
Joint Session in New Fellowship
Hall led by pastors**

Katherine's Candor

What a joy it has been to engage in Catechism with four amazing youth from our congregation! Throughout our journey we have enjoyed meals together and have heard incredible faith testimonies from parents, teachers, and pastors. We have also engaged in spiritual practices and have discussed different forms of prayer to help us detect God and God's activity in our midst. We have also engaged in wonderful and meaningful discussions over our class readings: Luke, Acts of the Apostles, and *Jesus for President* by Claiborne and Haw. Our discussions have been both joyful and uplifting (with lots of laughter), as well as deep and meaningful as we discuss what it looks like to follow Jesus, whose Kingdom is not like the kingdoms of this world.

We are looking forward to Baptism Sunday on May 19, when we will hear faith testimonies from our youth, as well as baptize and welcome them as members of the church (NOTE: One of our youth has opted to be baptized at Camp Mennoscah during Church Retreat this fall).

Thank you for your continued prayers, support, and encouragement for Elizabeth Alderfer, Dawson Duerksen, Audessi Unruh, and Porclein Unruh! Thanks be to God for the ways that God is both working in and through their lives!

~Grace and Peace, Pastor Katherine

Rosie's Reflections

Where were you on March 13, 1990? This drew some interesting conversation during *Stories & Stuff* at our March gathering. This historical date is stamped into our memory as if the day of the "Hesston Tornado" was yesterday. The details of where we were, what we were feeling/doing and how we were affected were vividly described by everyone in the group. Many people jumped into action to help in the cleanup and restoration and rebuilding. People who lost everything were helping others, and people who lost nothing were helping others. Disasters and traumatic experiences have a way of pulling people together. God's love was flowing in word and deed!



In Deuteronomy 6:4-9, there are 2 commands. The first is a command of allegiance. "*The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.*" The second command comes in verses 7-9, *tell the story!* Love God with everything you've got, keep yourself grounded in that love by pledging your allegiance to God alone, and then pass stories of God's love to each other in word and deed. May our lives reflect God's love in word and deed. Tell the Story!

~Grace and Peace, Pastor Rosie



Tabor Mennonite Church

Vacation Bible School

June 3-7, 8:30 - 11:45 a.m.

Celebration Service June 9
Picnic in the Park

All children ages 4 - grade 6 are invited

*6th graders: Something new planned
for you! More information coming soon.*

Registration forms coming in April
due April 28

Easter at Tabor



- ~April 14: 9:30am - Palm Sunday Worship; Children's Processional
- ~April 18: 6:00pm - Holy Week Meal and Service
- ~April 20: 10:00am - Easter Egg Hunt
- ~April 21: 9:00am - Easter Breakfast: 10:00am - Worship

Share an Easter Lily in honor of a loved one on Easter Sunday. Names of those to be honored, along with names of those sharing the lilies need to be turned in to the church office by Wednesday, April 17 to be listed in the bulletin. Lilies need to be brought to the church, clearly marked on the bottom with the name of the donor, and left in the foyer by noon on Saturday, April 20.

Tabor Mennonite Church

is now on

amazonsmile

Use the link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/48-0877687> or search for "Tabor Mennonite Church" at smile.amazon.com to support Tabor's building project every time you shop.

Tell your friends, coworkers, and family about this easy way to support our church while shopping online.

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

AmazonSmile is the same as Amazon with the added benefit of being able to support a charity of your choice.

Support Tabor by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com.



Coming this Summer! Goessel Community Day Camp July 2019

For:

Children entering 1st - 5th grades

Sponsored by:

Tabor, Goessel and Alexanderwohl Mennonite Churches

Purpose:

To provide faith-based opportunities for Goessel area children!

Schedule: 11:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
(includes lunch)

Dates and location:

July 9, 16, 23 -

Tabor Mennonite Church

July 10, 17, 24 -

Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

July 11, 18, 25 -

Goessel Mennonite Church
& swimming pool

Busing from Goessel Church to the other churches and swimming pool will be provided. Watch for more information & registration. This program is offered free of charge to children in the Goessel community.



Tabor Mennonite Women

The Tabor Mennonite Women and girls met on the afternoon of March 2 to make craft items for the MCC Sale. They enjoyed making mini barn quilts, painted chalkboard frames, soup-in-a-jar, beaded bracelets and tying comforters.

-Sharon Adrian, reporting

Mennonite Disaster Service

Director's Blueprint

I want to remind readers of the partnership MDS has with Hesston College. The two-year Disaster Management Program, affiliated with Mennonite Disaster Service, provides the experience, skills, and knowledge one needs to be involved in disaster recovery. Students learn ways to help people recover physically, psychologically, socially, and spiritually. Ultimately the goal is to develop leadership abilities in managing disaster response, emphasizing Christ-like service to socially vulnerable people. Scholarships are available for up to \$3,000 per year for students who qualify.¹

-Kevin King, MDS Executive Director

Personal to Tabor:

Cleo Koop, licensed pastor with Western District Conference and Mennonite Church USA, is the Disaster Management Professor at Hesston College. Cleo says: "I teach at Hesston because of the close connection with students in the classroom and informal activities. Building these relationships is a top priority as these young adults explore career options available to them."²

¹Mennonite Disaster Service Update, March 27, 2019

²hesston.edu/academics/faculty/profile/cleo-koop/



How close are we to having enough?

Is the Tabor Congregation getting excited about the completion of the Fellowship Hall? Well yes we are! In much the same way, the Finance Task Force is getting excited about the end of the fund raising! Our problem is that we can't quite see the future. We have acknowledged this to ourselves and to you and to God throughout this whole process and think it is integral in all the nearly miraculous responses we have had to our limited efforts. So after a recent Church Council meeting we have been directed to share with you what we are thinking about. We take this suggestion just like we have taken all suggestions, very positively and we will do our best!

As indicated by the weekly bulletin updates, we are much closer to completion than our beginning projections planned for. As a reminder, we approved a plan that said we would borrow up to \$400,000 to complete the building. The worst case scenario at this point is that we will have to borrow less than half that. (Worst case scenario is that we stop giving cold turkey and that we do not qualify for the challenge grant.) Let's give God the credit (that's a finance term for praise) for opening so many hearts to this mission! However, we project that based on your generosity in the past, there is a very low probability of this being our outcome.

Another potential outcome is that we are able to raise enough money to trigger the Conditional Challenge Grant and we complete the project. At this point, everyone (Finance Task Force included) wants to know how much more money to we need to raise to achieve this? This is the future we can't quite see. The initial bid that was signed by our Tabor Church representatives was for a project cost of \$1,312,000. As with any project, when you begin the actual project there are many points of the bid that are inaccurate, both high and low. Add in the volunteer labor and you have another variable. Also there are negotiations about change orders and end of project costs.

This makes the flexible Conditional Challenge grant very valuable. The terms of that grant are that the anonymous donor will pay up to \$100,000 to pay the final costs of the project to avoid signing the 10 year term loan we agreed to when we approved the project. We can keep our construction loan open until December of 2019 in order to give everyone time to meet their pledges and to adjust the final scope of the project.

So how are we proceeding with the fund raising in light of these considerations? The Finance Task Force would like to ask everyone to patient with the calculation of the final cost of the project until completion of the physical work of the project. Waiting until completion will yield a firm number needed to complete paying for our project. At that time we will change our reporting from a system based on the \$1.3 million to a method which reports one number based on the final actual cost, the number needed to pay off our project. When will that be? We hope that by the end of May the work will be done and we can tell you one final number that we need. Until then, continue to pray and give as the Lord directs, because that is the true value of the project.

~Myron Voth, for the Facilities Task Force