

Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXVI

January 24, 2021

No. 4



“Stories that Stick” Hospitality

This week we are reflecting on the story of Jesus' encounter with the woman who bathed his feet with her hair. This story reminds us that God is full of mercy and abounding in steadfast love. May we, like the woman, seek to love the Lord with all our heart and soul. And may we, like Jesus, seek to extend God's grace to all, even those we tend to believe are unworthy of God's love.

WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Hesston College Bel Canto Singers

WELCOME AND PRAYER

Janna Duerksen

GATHERING HYMN

“*I love you, Lord*” No. 83 CS
Russell Adrian and Venita Schroeder

CHILDREN'S STORY

Carol Duerksen & Doris Unruh

HYMN

“*Create in me a clean heart*” No. 77 CS

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 7:36-50 Barb Abrahams

The Word of God for the people of God ~ Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Pastor Katherine Goerzen

HYMN OF RESPONSE “*Praise, I will praise you, Lord*”

No. 76

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING and PRAYER

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor Phil Schmidt

SENDING BLESSING

“*Amazing Grace*”

Words for hymns in bulletin

Sunday, January 24

Come together in spirit to worship God and experience God's love. As we unite our hearts, may we be mindful of God's saving grace, especially as we face difficult circumstances through uncertain times.

Worship Service: We invite everyone to watch the worship playlist via YouTube.

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWJe_BGI_rnlegPNosRzNMP_91th-Z6z3

Faith Formation

9:00 am: Sharing and breakout rooms via Zoom.

Zoom connection information is below.

-Click this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7022907372?pwd=Ty9JK0Vvb1ZOLzFnaWxwdEwyVXRzdz09>

-Or, open Zoom and type in the following information:
Meeting ID: 702 290 7372 , Password: 2020

-Or, call in by dialing the following number: +1 346 248 7799, then dialing the Meeting ID (702 290 7372) followed by pressing the # key twice.

Children's Faith Formation: SHINE Winter curriculum.

See announcements for details and find in attachment to email.

2:30 pm: Mennonite Heritage and Ag Museum annual meeting via Zoom. *See announcement for details.*

This Week

Mon. Jan. 25, 7 pm - Men's Bible Study, Tabor Hospitality Hall.

Tues. Jan. 26, 10 am - Staff meeting.

Next Sunday, January 31

9:00 am: Faith Formation via Zoom.

Worship: We continue our “Stories that Stick” worship series by focusing on the theme of “Healing.” The scripture focus will be Luke 7:18-23 and Pastor Katherine will be preaching. The service may be viewed via YouTube playlist.

3:00 pm: Junior High Youth Fellowship meet in the Tabor Church Park.

Offering January 17, 2021

\$ 3,688.00

Prayer Requests

Remember to Pray for:

- ★ the Tabor Deacon Board as they meet to discern interim leadership and for our congregation as we move into this time of transition. Lord, hear our prayer.
- ★ Pastor Phil and his family as they are in their last weeks of serving at Tabor. Lord, hear our prayer for opportunities to find meaningful ways to say goodbye in spite of the challenging circumstances that the pandemic presents us with.
- ★ the family of Archie Schmidt. Archie passed away on Sunday evening, January 17. A graveside service for family was held at the Tabor Church cemetery on Thursday, January 21. Lord, hear our prayers for Your peace, comfort, and love to surround Kristin, and their family. There will be a memorial service for Archie at a later date.
- ★ the family of Erlene Unruh who passed away on January 8. A graveside service for family took place at the Tabor Church Cemetery on Tuesday, January 19. Lord, hear our prayers for peace and comfort for all who mourn her loss. A memorial service for Bob and Erlene will take place at a later date.
- ★ the family of Rose Voth who passed away on January 11. Private inurnment will be held at Haven of Rest Cemetery, Hillsboro, Kansas with a memorial service to take place at a later date. Lord, hear our prayers for all who grieve the loss of Rose.
- ★ all in our congregation and community who are sick with COVID-19, all who are recovering from surgery, all who are dealing with other illness, and all who are grieving the loss of loved ones. Lord, hear our prayer.
- ★ all who live and work at Bethesda Home, Schowalter Villa, Kidron Bethel and area nursing homes as they continue caring for residents recovering from Covid. Lord, hear our prayers for strength, healing, and peace.
- ★ school administrators, teachers, and students as they continue to deal with staff and students out due to Covid and quarantine. Lord, hear our prayer.
- ★ healing in our country amidst the transitions in leadership and deep divisions. Lord, hear our prayer.
- ★ Western District Conference: Pray for the WDC Gifts Discernment Committee, as they listen for the Spirit's leading in nominating persons to serve on the WDC Executive Board and Commissions.
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: Upon completing her first year of service in eastern France with MMN, Kate Widmer felt God's call to extend for a second year. Pray for her as she continues to work with immigrant families as part of the outreach of *La Prairie* Mennonite Church.

Congregational Announcements

Please take time to read the important communication from the COVID Task Team. This document details plans for meeting at Tabor in future months and gives the rationale for decisions made. We appreciate the many hours this team has put in over the past year and continues to give to this process. We respect the decisions they arrive at in their desire to keep our church, neighbors and community in good health during this time of pandemic.

The deacon team is in the process of discerning our future interim leadership. We ask for your prayers as we move through this transitional time.
~Emil Schmidt, for the Deacons

Children's Faith Formation: Parents, children's faith formation for January and February will be provided as a weekly page of suggestions from the SHINE winter quarter curriculum. The "All of Us" book and student booklets handed out before Christmas will be used. Please contact Pam Abrahams with any questions.

Book Study Opportunity: This past fall, a number of us read and discussed Drew Hart's book *Trouble I've Seen*. As a follow up, Pastor Katherine is planning to lead a book study on his new book: *Who Will Be a Witness?* If you are interested in joining in this book study, please let Pastor Katherine know. We hope to start this book study some time towards the beginning of February.

2020 Tabor Church Annual Reports have been sent out via email or will be mailed to those who do not have email access. If you would like a paper copy, please contact Kim Funk at the church office. (367-2318; kfunk@tabormennonite.org)

Directory Updates: Please submit any updates for the 2021 Tabor Church Directory to kfunk@tabormennonite.org or call 367-2318. If no answer, please leave a message. Thank you.

Bloodmobile: The need for blood products is ongoing. Please consider donating on February 8 between 1:00-6:00 pm at the Goessel Mennonite Church. Many donation openings are still available. Single unit donations are greatly appreciated. In addition, Power Red donations, which are the equivalent of two red cell units, are encouraged if you have type O+, O-, A-, or B-. Darcy Buller has given Power Red donations, and says the donation time is only about 20 minutes longer. Sign up for your appointment time at redcrossblood.org. Testing for COVID antibodies is performed. For more information contact Rosie Reimer 620-367-2418 or Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081.

Hesston College announces an online event for February 20, 2021: What if They Don't Come Back? Pastoring Through the Pandemic. Pastors and church leaders have had unprecedented challenges during COVID-19. How do we care for each other when we can't be together? How do we move toward each other in a time of historical division if we can't be in proximity? How do we reach out when we really should stay home? Tensions, divisions and frustrations abound and the Pastor is at the center of it all. But what if in the midst of challenge comes the opportunity for transformative change? More information: <https://www.hesston.edu/academics/departments/call-program/weekend-college/what-if-they-dont-come-back/>
If you plan to attend, please contact the church office. You will be registered with Tabor to qualify for a group registration discount.

Small Group Gatherings: If you would like to schedule an in-person or Zoom meeting for your small group, faith formation class, or another gathering, please let church staff know and we will get that set up!

Conference Announcements

Western District Conference:

--**KLC Leadership Lunch:** In these complex times, good leadership is vital. Please join us to practice a leadership competency January 28, 12-1:15 pm. You're welcome if you're a Kansas Leadership Center alumni or if you want to learn more. Please email wdc@mennowdc.org for the Zoom link.

Mennonite Church USA:

--**Mennonite Education Agency** has initiated a search for an executive director. To learn more and for a complete agency profile and position description, see: <https://www.mennoniteeducation.org/Resources/News/Pages/default.aspx>.

--**MC USA's annual Lent at Home** guide is now available for download at: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/resource-portal/resource/lent-at-home/>.

--**Mennonite Men**, a constituency group of Mennonite Church USA, has launched JoinTrees, an initiative to plant a million trees and protect 5,000 acres over the next decade. Learn how to get involved at mennonitemen.org/jointrees

--**MennoCon21** Save the date for MennoCon21, the biennial gathering of Mennonite Church USA, July 6-10, in Cincinnati, Ohio. To learn more, including what a hybrid convention might look like, visit <https://convention.mennoniteusa.org/>

Camp Mennoscah

--**There are volunteer opportunities for you!** Camp Mennoscah continually has year-round work to support the maintenance and upkeep of the campus and facilities. We can accommodate every group size, skill set and length of project you would like to tackle. Check out these ways to Get Involved! Email office@campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 to volunteer.

--**Applications for Camp Mennoscah Summer Staff** positions are now being accepted! Although there is a chance positions will change to meet the needs of pandemic-impacted summer youth camps, the current summer staff leadership positions are naturalist, crafts leader, lifeguard, grounds/maintenance, music leader, office, and all-round/media. For those 21 years old or older, there is also a Director of Support opening. Find the application and information online at www.campmennoscah.org under Summer Youth Camps!

--**Camp Mennoscah is a wonderful space** for families and groups needing space to spread out! Facilities for differently sized groups are available with a variety of gathering areas. Trails and fields are waiting to be hiked and used for fun activities, too! Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or office@campmennoscah.org to reserve. You are invited to enjoy this sacred space!

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC):

--**Join MCC for a virtual learning tour** of the borderlands between the United States in Mexico, meet partners who work with MCC both internationally and domestically. We will explore issues of migration, land rights and policy and how faith and justice weave together. This is a 5-day virtual tour, January 24-29, 2021, 2-5 pm CST daily, an exploration of how we continue to learn and "travel" in the midst of a pandemic. Please register by the end of the day on Monday, Jan. 18 at https://mcc_us.formstack.com/.../mcc_lt_registration_form... Contact anahinojosa@mcc.org with questions.

Bethel College:

--Sat., Jan. 30 – Kauffman Museum **annual Kansas Day event**, "Our Stories, Our Foods." Starting at 11 a.m. – food trucks, local producer booths and take-it-home crafts, museum parking lot and grounds; 11 a.m. via Zoom: Glen Ediger, North Newton: stories about Mennonite ethnic foods; 2 p.m. via Zoom: Jenny Masias, Newton: "The Immigrants Who Built Newton: One Spike at a Time"; walking tour to the eight "Stories Along the Trail" sites in North Newton. Please note that face coverings must be worn and distancing guidelines followed on Kauffman Museum and all Bethel College property. To get Zoom links, go to the Kauffman Museum Facebook page or kauffmannmuseum.org

The KIPCOR Film Series at Bethel College is serving up a second helping of Cooked: Survival by Zip Code, which focuses on the deadly 1995 Chicago heat wave to illustrate how Black, Indigenous and People of Color and low-income citizens suffer the most negative impact from natural disasters. The film is an indictment of U.S. disaster preparedness, and connects extreme weather, extreme disparity (income and other) and extreme racism. Go to kipcor.org, "Film Series," for a link to watch Cooked for free and a link to register for the Feb. 7 virtual discussion; advance registration is required to participate in the discussion, which will be held in break-out rooms, with leaders who include Chicagoans who experienced the 1995 heat disaster.

Hymns for Worship

I Love You Lord

Companion Songbook No. 83
CCLI # 1187500 #CSPL087170

I love You, Lord, and I lift my voice
to worship You. O my soul; rejoice.
Take joy, my King, in what You hear.
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.

Create In Me A Clean Heart

Companion Songbook No. 77
CCLI # 1187500 #CSPL087170

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Your presence, O Lord,
and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Praise, I Will Praise You Lord

Hymnal: A Worship Book No. 76

Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.
O God, I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.
Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.
In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!

Love, I will love you, Lord . . .

Serve, I will serve you, Lord . . .



Mennonite World Conference

Prayers of gratitude and intercession

Dear Lord, as we enter this new year, steady our hearts to spread the gospel of peace. May we follow your Spirit as we work for transformation and justice in this world. Lord, give us courage to proclaim this message in word and action, especially in places where there is corruption, persecution and natural disasters. Thank you for Jesus' peacemaking example.

Pray that our local congregations find ways to model the love of Christ in their communities which struggle with illness and death due to the pandemic, while at the same time learning how to bridge the political and racial divisions which also exist. Pray that the spirit of unity would bring healing and resilience.

Praise God for the sacrificial work of health care workers who have given themselves in acts of solidarity, generosity and kindness for those who are most vulnerable, afflicted and in need. Through their practical help and pastoral and psychosocial accompaniment, they show God's love in the midst of crisis. Thank you for these lights of hope that bring comfort and peace. Renew their faith, trust and hope.¹

¹<https://mwc-cmm.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=479>



Tabor Mennonite Church
891 Chisholm Trail, Newton, KS 67114
Phone: 620-367-2318 email: tabor@tabormennonite.org
Website: www.tabormennonite.org

As God's children and the body of Christ, we are called by God to offer

Co-Pastor:

Philip Schmidt

Cell: 620-386-0779

email: pschmidt@tabormennonite.org

Co-Pastor:

Katherine Goerzen

Cell: 316-727-4986

email: kgoerzen@tabormennonite.org

Deacons:

Carol Duerksen

Duane Duerksen

Marcene Entz

Denise Nickel

Emil Schmidt

John Unruh