

Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXVI

September 5, 2021

No. 36

On Tabor's Heights: Offering Our Gifts



Today we focus on the Israelites as they rebuild the wall surrounding Jerusalem found at the beginning of Nehemiah. Many people came together to help reconstruct the wall, of whom many had diverse backgrounds. They were able to successfully rebuild the wall with the contributions of a multitude. In what ways are there similarities to today, as we look toward the future post-pandemic?

WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Pastor Katherine Goerzen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ruby Graber

LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP AND RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Isaiah 41:6-10*

*GATHERING PRAYER

*GATHERING HYMN *"Build My Life"* No. 92
Pastor Katherine, Pastor Luke, Peter Goerzen

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

*OFFERING OUR GIFTS *"Here by the Water"* No. 629

CHILDREN'S STORY Eunice Nickel

WORSHIP MUSIC *"Prayer for Peace"* -Shelly Venita Schroeder

SCRIPTURE READING *Nehemiah 2:17-18; 3:1-12* Erica Stoltzfus
The Word of God for the people of God ~ Thanks be to God!

SERMON Pastor Luke Unruh

*HYMN OF RESPONSE *"God, Whose Giving"* No. 745

FAITH SHARING Donavon Schmidt

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING & PRAYER Pastor Luke Unruh

*SENDING HYMN *"There Are Many Gifts"* No. 374

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Please stand if you are able*

Sunday, September 5

Welcome to worship at Tabor Church! Come together to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Lewis and Carrie Unruh. A special welcome is extended to all visitors.

9:30 am: Worship Service in the Sanctuary.
YouTube Livestream (also available following the service).
Link: <https://youtu.be/MNeuz430WhA>

Fellowship Time following worship.

10:45 am: Faith Formation.
Elizabeth Alderfer will share about her summer at Echo Ranch Bible Camp in Alaska. Children through adults are invited to join together in the Hospitality Hall for this time of sharing from Liz. There will be activities for younger children.

This Week

Mon. Sept. 6, 7 pm - Men's Bible Study in the Hospitality Hall.

Tues. Sept. 7, 9 am - Staff meeting.

7:30 pm - Church Council.

Wed. Sept. 8, 5:30 pm - Faithful Fitness.

Bulletin Announcements are due.

Sat. Sept. 11 - Sun. Sept. 12 - Women's Retreat at Camp Mennoscah.

Next Sunday, September 12

9:30 am: Next Sunday we will continue with the worship series, "On Tabor's Heights." The theme for the morning will be "The House of God." Scripture for reflection will be Ezra 6:7, 15-22 and Isaiah 58 and Pastor Katherine will be preaching.

Fellowship Time following worship.

10:45 am: Faith Formation.

Prayer Requests

The following prayer request were shared on Sunday, August 29

- ★ Lois Voth shared that their grandson, Barrett Dalton, was born to Brittany and Shane Denson on August 28. Barrett and Brittany are both doing well. We celebrate with Brittany and Shane, grandparents Lois and Lester Voth, and aunt, uncle, and cousins Eunice, Kenton, Lydia, Miriam, and Jordan Nickel. Thanks be to God!



Remember to Pray for:

- ★ The many, many people who are experiencing the loss of life and the devastation brought about from the recent hurricane and heavy rains across the south and east of the country, and the wildfires which continue to rage in the west. Lord, hear our prayers.
- ★ all who are impacted by weather related disasters in our world, as well as all who are impacted by violence and the threat of terror. Lord, hear our prayers.
- ★ all who are struggling with illness, depression, despair, loneliness, both here and around the world. Lord, hear our prayer for your healing presence to be made known in the midst of struggles.
- ★ The caring quilts are home.
- ★ Western District Conference: Give thanks for God's faithfulness with WDC congregation Buhler (KS) Mennonite Church, as they celebrate their centennial today and look forward to fruitful ministry in the future!
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: This week, Amanda and Tyler Yoder, and their two toddlers, began a year-long SOOP assignment, through Mennonite Mission Network at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp in Colorado. Pray for them as they work alongside camp staff in hosting, maintenance and wherever else they are needed.

Remember to Praise God for:

- ★ the welcome rains which we have gotten this past week. Thanks be to God.

Thanks

Thank you all for your prayers for my friend's grandson, Briggs, who experienced an infection and life-threatening kidney issues a few weeks ago. I am happy to report he has returned home, and even to school, while continuing to manage his healing progress. Thanks be to God!

~Kevin Nickel

Thank you for your generous support of the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale! Just recently, the relief sale board gave MCC a check for \$500,000 from the sale that took place in July! Thank you for donating your time and energy, making and buying food, donating and bidding on cars, furniture, quilts and art to support the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. In the past 14 months the Kansas sale has donated just under \$1 million (all during a pandemic!) to support the worldwide work of MCC. Your support becomes food for the hungry, water for the thirsty, and locally owned projects that address barriers to human flourishing, thank you.

Congregational Announcements

A Personal Visit with our Mission Partners! Plan to join us for worship on September 26 when Joseph and Rachel Givens will be with us to lead the service. We will also meet with them during the Faith Formation hour to learn more about their upcoming service with Mennonite Mission Network in Calais, France. We hope to extend the time for visiting by sharing lunch with them, however, this will be determined by the Covid protocol at that time. A special offering will be taken that Sunday to go towards our commitment of financial support for their ministry. We look forward to learning to know them and hear about their work.

The annual Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk is less than a month away. This year's route (between 1 and 6 miles) will begin at Goessel Church on Sunday, September 26 at 1:30 p.m. Find a donation envelope from Kevin Nickel or on the literature table in the foyer and start your fundraising today! Donations this year will go towards MCC's efforts to provide emergency support and supplies to those affected by the Haiti earthquake earlier this month and the local Tabor Church Food Pantry.

MCC Flatlander Bicycle Ride: We are raising money for clean water projects in Nicaragua. Registration is now open. You can register on line at www.Bikereg.com/mcc-flatlander-ride, or paper registrations are located under the mailboxes in the church foyer. We need a separate registration for each rider. The ride is scheduled for Sept. 18, 2021. Registration, 7 am. Ride begins at 8 am. If you have questions please talk to Elton Nickel.

Tractor Drivers Needed: Tabor is asked to provide 5 tractor drivers for the Shuttle at the KS State Fair Thurs., Sept 16. 1-4pm shift; 4-7pm shift and 7-9:30 shift. FREE GATE TICKET. The State Fair discounts the rental of the Fairgrounds for our MCC Sale in April. Call or email Jerry 620-367-8257 or jtoews62@gmail.com

Kansas MDS Unit sponsoring two Learning and Service Trips to McAllen Texas: Dates of two trips: October 16 - 23, February 19 - 26. Participants will leave Kansas on Saturday morning traveling to San Antonio, TX, staying overnight. Visiting San Antonio Mennonite Church on Sunday morning. Sunday afternoon traveling to McAllen TX for the MDS project. Costs: Lodging and meals on the two traveling weekends. MDS will cover the remainder of the expenses. Reservations: To make your reservations or **for more information contact Cleo Koop** at cleohkoop@gmail.com or call 316-282-0797. If you are interested in volunteering at McAllen, TX on different weeks than what is in this announcement please call the volunteer coordinator at 800-241-8111.

Request for Information: I am working on compiling information for individuals who served in CPS, 1-W, VS, PAX, Teachers Abroad, etc. I have sent out emails and letters to individuals who I know served with one of these entities. If you didn't receive a notification and served in some way please let me know. Thanks, Ilona Abrahams

Invitation: This past year we have experienced losses of loved ones in greater numbers than we typically have in years past. We remember and celebrate those lives. Planning for memorials is not an easy task, nor is it one which we often take the time to think about before the need arises. That being said, those planning services - Pastors, families, church staff and funeral committee alike, have all been grateful for the Life Sketches we have on file here at Tabor. Some of you may have filled out a Life Sketch in the past. Others may not be aware that this is available. We are offering the opportunity for you to fill out a Life Sketch, which you will find attached to the Sunday Worship email, with paper copies available below the mailboxes in the foyer. If you have previously filled out a life sketch and would like to review it and/or update it, please let us know. Once completed, please return to Pastor Katherine (place in her church mailbox or email a copy to her kgoerzen@tabormennonite.org) and she will hold in a confidential file.

Basement Remodel: Progress continues on the renovations that are being made in the basement fellowship hall. Youth have already been using one of the rooms this summer during Faith Formation! If you would like to donate to the remodel project, please make checks payable to Tabor Mennonite Church, clearly marked 'basement remodel.' If you would be willing to help out with the renovations, please contact Kenton Nickel or one of the Trustees. Thanks for your support of this project!

Support Habitat for Humanity: For those of you that collect aluminum cans there is a bin on the west side of the church that you can place them in. The money raised funds the Habitat for Humanity house in Newton.

Conference Announcements

Western District Conference:

--**Farewell and Welcome:** Nancy Funk retired on August 31 and the new administrative assistant is Michelle Schrag. For more, see the following links: *Thank you, Nancy Funk!* - <https://mennowdc.org/thank-you-nancy-funk/> *Welcome, Michelle Schrag* - <https://mennowdc.org/welcome-to-michelle-schrag-wdcs-new-administrative-assistant/>

--**WDC updated office hours:** 8 am – 4:30 pm. The office is normally open through the lunch hour.

--**Women's Retreat:** All women 13 years and older are invited to the annual Women's Retreat being held Saturday, September 11 through Sunday, September 12 at Camp Mennoscah near Murdock, KS. [Click here for more information and registration forms.](#)

--**Hispanic Ministries – IBA Burrito Benefit Sale:** Friday, October 15. Order to Go (Drive thru pick up.) First Mennonite Church, Newton. Watch for more details! For any inquires contact Violeta Ajquejay Suastegui at: VioletaA@MennoniteEducation.org or call 316-281-4342.

Mennonite Central Committee:

--**Join MCC in prayer and support for those suffering in our world.** MCC has prepositioned relief materials in Haiti for immediate use. MCC continues to respond to needs around the world in Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Congo and other crisis areas. We greatly appreciate your [monetary donations](#) to keep current projects going and to help with extra expenses due to recent disasters; and we could use your help in replenishing our supplies of [relief kits and hygiene kits](#). Questions can be directed to 316.283.2720 or centralstates@mcc.org.

--**Mennonite Central Committee has a variety of service opportunities** all around the world and the following opportunities are especially important to fill at this time. Please contact Heidi Huber with questions at heidihuber@mcc.org or 316.283.2720.

- °Organizational development and Racial Equity Director.
- °MCC Representative for Haiti.
- °Seed Community Development Worker.
- °Canner Operator.

For more information or to apply for these listings, visit: <https://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings>

Camp Mennoscah:

--**Hymn Sing-Dessert Auction and Annual Meeting** September 26. There are still details to be determined, but plan on some hymn singing (masked & distanced), bidding on delectable desserts, and information about Camp Mennoscah's year. We'll keep the details coming your way!

--**There are volunteer opportunities for you!** Camp Mennoscah 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.

Mennonite Disaster Service is now scheduling RV volunteers for the Fall 2021 season! For Weekly Volunteer scheduling, contact Deanna Frey at dfrey@mds.org. For Leadership and RV Volunteers, contact Josh Carson at jcarson@mds.org. You can also contact your volunteer coordinator by calling 800-241-8111 with any interest or questions.

Bethel College:

--Sunday, Sept. 12 – **KIPCOR Film Series** resumes *live*, with *The Prison Within*, a film by Katherin Hervey, 2 p.m., *Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College*. Individuals incarcerated in San Quentin Prison, charged with murder, take a journey of redemption through participation in a restorative justice program. Audience discussion with Hervey, film director, producer and writer, and Leonard Rubio, executive director of Insight Prison Project, live via Zoom.

--Bakers and Crafters Needed! Help support Bethel College Women's Association by donating pies for BCWA's Pie-By-The-Slice booth or any baked item or craft item for the Market in the Round at Fall Fest 2021. Peppernuts, zwieback, cinnamon rolls, and coffee cakes are popular items! Bring your pies (no refrigerated or custard pies please) to Seminar A in Schultz Student Center 4:00-6:30pm Friday, October 1 or 8-11 am on Saturday, October 2. Baked goods and craft items can be dropped off at the Luyken Fine Arts Center Rm 140 on Friday 1:30-4:30pm or Saturday 7-8 am. All proceed go so support Bethel College.

--Save the date: Mark McCormick, director of strategic communications for the ACLU of Kansas, will give the next KIPCOR Peace Lecture, Thursday, Sept. 30, on the Bethel campus as part of Bethel's Fall Festival.

Everence will host a *Social Security and retirement income planning* webinar, on Tuesday, Sept. 14 at 6:30 p.m. Attendees will learn about Social Security strategies, risks that can impact retirement savings and strategies to help income last throughout retirement. This online workshop is free. Register soon by contacting our office at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or central.kansas@everence.com.

SEPTEMBER COVID19 PROTOCOL

--Due to the recent increases in Covid19 and the Delta variant, the CDC recommends that everyone (including vaccinated persons) **wear masks when indoors** in areas of high or substantial community transmission. We Strongly Encourage following this mask guidance at this time.

--Every other pew in the sanctuary will be roped off for social distance seating.

--Social Distance seating on dots during children's story time will continue.

--During worship people speaking from the front microphones are encouraged to remove masks to accommodate those who have difficulty understanding the speakers.

--Musicians are encouraged to perform from the stage to minimize the transmission of respiratory droplets.

--Congregational Singing has resumed.

--Passing Offering Bags will resume.

--PLEASE KEEP HANDSHAKING TO A MINIMUM WITH GREETERS AND DURING THE SERVICE.

--If you test positive after attending a church event, **PLEASE** call one of the Covid Task Team or the church office. **This is important!**

--Sanitizing stations will remain available and encouraged to be used.

--Mailboxes are in use.

--Gatherings that include serving of food are discouraged. Groups of less than 50 may meet with food if individual plates are prepared and served (versus potluck style).

Thank You, Covid Task Team – Gayle Funk, Duane Duerksen, Erica Stoltzfus

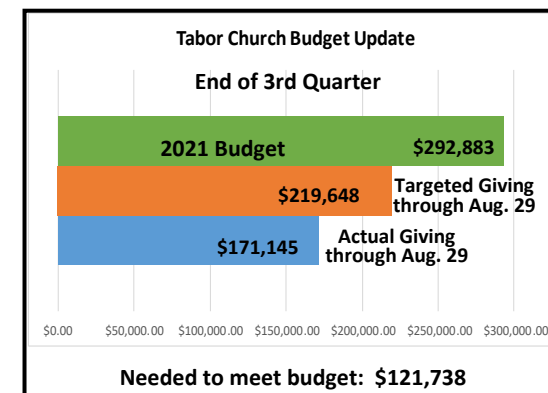
OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

August 29, 2021

Offering	= \$ 3,081.95	Attendance	= 113
Adult FF	= \$ 27.00	Attendance	= 49
Jr. FF	= \$ 2.25	Attendance	= 20

Worship Link Views = 47

Views to links may include more than one person



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 hospitality, healing and hope in the name of Christ.

Pastor:
Katherine Goerzen
Cell: 316-727-4986
email: kgoerzen@tabormennonite.org

Supply Pastor:
Luke Unruh
Cell: 620-386-4596
email: lunruh@tabormennonite.org

Deacons:

Carol Duerksen
Duane Duerksen

Ruby Graber
Denise Nickel

Emil Schmidt
Lewis Unruh