

## Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIII

April 23, 2023

No. 17



### KANSAS MENNONITE RELIEF SALE CELEBRATION

Today we celebrate the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale, and the many ways that people from all over Kansas came together for the sake of serving in the name of Christ! Thanks be to God for all who generously offered their time and their gifts on behalf of this ministry! May God continue to bless these gifts offered in Jesus' name.

### WORSHIP

PRELUDE Deloris Schmidt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Maynard Knepp

RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL AND LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *Micah 6:6-8*

\*GATHERING HYMN "I Bind My Heart This Tide" No. 556

\*GATHERING PRAYER

\*HYMN OF PRAYER "Longing for Light" -vs. 1, 2, 3, & 5 No. 715

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

WORSHIP MUSIC "Crowded Table" -The Highwomen Michelle Unruh

CHILDREN'S STORY Cory Unruh

SCRIPTURE READING *James 2:14-18* Brent Abrahams  
*The Word of God for the people of God. ~ Thanks be to God!*

MCC SALE SHARING Jerry Toews  
Open Mic Sharing  
*You are invited to share a story or two about your experiences at the MCC Sale.*

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE "We Are People of God's Peace" No. 797

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING & PRAYER Pastor Katherine Goerzen

\*SENDING HYMN "We, Your People, Sing Your Praises" No. 849

\*BENEDICTION Pastor Todd Schlosser

POSTLUDE *\*Please stand if you are able*

### Sunday, April 23

Welcome to worship at Tabor Mennonite Church! Come together to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Brian Voth and Gayle Funk. A special welcome is extended to all visitors.

**9:30 am:** Worship

YouTube Livestream (also available following the service).

[https://youtube.com/live/pfjQ\\_jRoEDs?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/pfjQ_jRoEDs?feature=share)

**10:45 am:** Faith Formation for everyone.

**1:00 pm:** Tabor leads Chapel at Bethesda

**7:00 pm:** Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus, Memorial Hall, Bethel College, Newton. "We sing that others may live." Donations benefit Mennonite Central Committee.

### This Week

*Bulletin announcements are due on Thursday mornings.*

**Mon, April 24 - 5:30 pm** - Faithful Fitness.

**7:00 pm** - Men's Bible Study. Book of Mark.

**Tues, April 25, 9:30 am** - Staff meeting.

**5:30 pm** - Tabor Mennonite Women Mystery Supper.

**Wed, April 26 - 7:00 pm** - TMYF

### Next Sunday, April 30

**9:30 am:** Next Sunday's worship will be taken from Arbor Day worship resources provided by Mennonite Men inspired by their JoinTrees initiative. Scripture texts for reflection include Genesis 2:4b-9,15 and Revelation 22:1-5, and Pastor Katherine will be preaching.

**Fifth Sunday Offering:** New Hope Shelter.

**10:45 am:** Faith Formation for everyone.

**11:45 am:** Following Faith Formation, there will be a potluck to celebrate the many ways that Kim Funk has blessed our congregation through her role as church secretary. During the meal there will be an open mic time to share stories and to offer our gratitude to Kim. ~Church Council

## Prayer Requests

*The following prayer requests were shared on April 16.*

- ★ Ilona Abrahams shared that she and Rod were going to spend most of this past week on tribal lands in Red Lake, Minnesota helping to install cabinets for Mennonite Disaster Service there. Thanks be to God for this service opportunity!

Remember to Pray for:

- ★ The Children's Caring Quilt is with Cayla, Reece, and Teagan Hiebert.
- ★ Western District Conference: Pray for sponsors, mentors, teachers and pastors who minister with youth in WDC congregations.
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: MMN requests prayer for Bekah York, as she begins six weeks of North American ministry this month. Pray for inspiration, as she speaks in churches, encouraging others to join what God is doing in Colombia, as well as for rest and renewal, as she reconnects with family and friends.

## Congregational Announcements

**Missing Book:** A new book written by Edna and George Dyck about their life together was left in the library, but before we could process the book into our library system, it ran away. If you have seen it, please place it in the church library book drop so the book can be made an official part of our library collection. Thank you! ~The Library Committee

**Tabor Food Pantry Volunteers Needed:** The Food Pantry is sponsored by Goessel Ministerial Alliance and is already generously supported through donations by the Goessel community. Help make a difference for families who may need help in difficult times by joining the team of volunteers who oversee the general needs of the Food Pantry. Tasks include shelving donated items and organizing the Food Pantry, purchasing gift cards from Goessel Grocery and Deli, and meeting with people who come to fill their grocery needs. Contact Kim Funk or one of the Tabor Pastors (367-2318) to volunteer, to understand the process of working with a client, or if you have questions.

**Ordination Service:** A celebration of ordination for Michael Unruh, Campus Pastor at Bethel College, will take place on Sunday, May 7 at 2 pm in the Administration Building Chapel at Bethel College, 300 E. 27th Street, North Newton. Guests are welcome to join the college community and Michael's congregation, Tabor Mennonite Church, for this special occasion.

**Children's Story Bible:** Christian Education Council will be placing an order for the New Children's Story Bible, The Peace Table, which includes stories that will correspond with the Shine Curriculum for the next 3 years. These Bibles will be 25% off until June 1. If you would like to order a copy for your family, please let Kim or Pastor Katherine know by May 14. The discounted cost is \$25 per book.

**Summer Camps:** Registration for children/youth summer camps are open for Camp Mennoscah and Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. Tabor Christian Education Co. is offering \$75 scholarships for all Tabor children attending summer camps. Please sign up on the bulletin board to receive your reimbursement.

**Tabor Mennonite Women** Mystery Supper is Tuesday, April 25. If you signed up, please meet at the church at 5:30 pm to leave by 5:45. Cost is \$20.00, which includes the meal, gratuity, and an offering for TMW.

**Spring work day** at church will be on May 6 this year. Volunteers are needed to keep our church grounds maintained and looking nice. There are projects for everyone, so plan to attend from 8 am until noon. Refreshments are appreciated! Contact a trustee with any questions.

**The position of Church Secretary** has been filled by Diane Unruh. The position of Church Treasurer remains open. Please see one of the trustees if you are interested in the treasurer position. Kim's last day will be May 31.

### Tabor's Summer Plans:

--Children's, Jr. High and Youth Faith Formation will take a break for the summer months, which means that there will be no Faith Formation from May 28 to August 13. On August 20 and 27, children and youth will meet together for stories and games. Regular Faith Formation will begin again on September 10.

--Each Adult class may discern whether or not they would like to continue meeting during the summer months.

--Worship will still begin at 9:30, and each Sunday will be followed by an optional time for coffee and fellowship, with Finger Food Fellowship potlucks on the first Sundays of June, July, and August.

**The McPherson BRASS**, under the direction of Jerry Toews, will be giving their Final Spring Concert Sun., April 23 at 3pm in The Church of the Brethren, 201 N. Carrie, McPherson. This will be a Good one, lots of Rousing music.

**The Fourth Monday Family History & Genealogy Group** will meet on Monday, April 24, 7 pm, in the Goessel City Building Community Room, 101 So. Cedar St., Goessel. The subject for the evening of sharing will be "Bring an Heirloom and Share the Story." The meeting is free and open to the public. For information, call the Goessel Museum (620-367-8200).

### Upcoming:

Sat, May 6 - Spring Work Day at Tabor

Sun, May 7 - Ordination Service for Michael Unruh at Bethel College

Wed, May 10 - VBS Orientation

Sun, May 21 - Bethesda Fundraiser: White Owl Barn

Fri, May 26 - Mon, May 29 - JR High Camp 412

Mon, June 5 - Fri, June 9 - Vacation Bible School

## Conference and Community Announcements

### Western District Conference:

**--Save the Date!** Western District Conference Annual Assembly, August 11-13, 2023 at Tabor Mennonite Church, Newton, KS. This annual event is for all ages. Come for intergenerational fun faith formation, music, worship, work of the broader church, good food, time with old and new friends, and more! The topic is holy listening.

**--Anabaptism at 500 and the Anabaptist Community Bible:** The five hundredth anniversary of Anabaptism in 2025 gives the church a unique opportunity to celebrate and dream. To celebrate all the ways God has been faithful, and to dream about how we can mend what's been broken. Join this special event Saturday, April 29 at 7pm at Whitestone Mennonite Church in Hesston. John D. Roth, project director, and Mitch Stutzman, director of development and partner engagement will talk about the Anabaptism at 500 project and share the vision behind the Anabaptist Community Bible. The event will include an update on the status of the project and a time for questions and conversation.

**--All WDC women** are invited to join a virtual event sponsored by Western District Women in Mission on Tuesday, April 25. Jenny Gehman, spiritual director, retreat speaker, and writer, will present on "Holy Host: the Hospitality of God." Join us in person or virtually. Our in-person gathering will be at First Mennonite Church in Newton, beginning with a salad potluck at 6 pm followed by Jenny joining virtually from Pennsylvania at 6:45 pm. There is no cost to this event, but please register by April 23 by emailing [westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com](mailto:westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com) so you can receive a Zoom link if joining virtually. Please email your RSVP if attending in person and bring a salad to share. Church groups can consider gathering together to watch the Zoom. For more information, contact Wendy Schrag at 316-841-5245.

### Mennonite Church USA:

**--MennoCon23** Online registration is open for MennoCon23, Mennonite Church USA's leading faith formation event, in Kansas City (Missouri) Convention Center, July 3-6, 2023. Registration is also open for the Youth & Young Adult Climate Summit, July 7, and the Delegate Assembly, July 7-8. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/news/mennocon23-registration](https://mennoniteusa.org/news/mennocon23-registration)

**--Mennonite Church USA is seeking Menno Snapshots blogs** on the topic, "I choose to be Mennonite because..." Bloggers are encouraged to reflect on how they came to Anabaptism, what attracted them to our Mennonite theology and practices, and how this has impacted their lives. This is an ideal opportunity for the recently baptized and/or those who may have joined from other faith traditions. Suggested word count is 500-900 words. Youth are also encouraged to participate (no word count requirements). Read the blog guidelines and submit your blog here by May 22:

<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/blog-guidelines/>

**Camp Mennoscah** is looking for counselors for the 2023 summer youth camps. Counselors must be at least 17 years old and 5 years older than the campers. Weekly program directors will contact people, as needed. If you have questions, contact Camp Mennoscah.

Contact: Website: [www.campmennoscah.org](http://www.campmennoscah.org) Phone: 620-297-3290.

**Mennonite Disaster Service:** The April edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: learn why some volunteers feel driven to be a part of the RV (recreational vehicle) program; search and rescue volunteers in Arkansas help bring closure to a grieving family; and volunteers in Florida deliver hope just in time for Easter. Read more at <https://conta.cc/3USblhq>

### Newton Et Cetera Shop:

--Newton Et Cetera Shop's board of directors will host a farewell reception for general manager Sara Dick on Saturday, April 29, 2-4 pm at the shop (619 North Main, Newton). You're invited to stop by to celebrate seven years of Sara's leadership and wish her well!

--A Newton Et Cetera Shop Volunteer Event will be held Tuesday, May 2 at 6:30 pm at Shalom Mennonite Church, 800 E. First Street, Newton. Current and former volunteers as well as anyone interested in becoming a volunteer at the shop are invited. Join us to learn more about our mission and opportunities to get involved. Your work supports MCC! 30% of MCC's annual budget comes from thrift shops across the United States.

**Heartland Pregnancy Care Center**, Newton, is seeing a record pace for client work this year! We are up 57% in client services so far, with the pace only increasing. Please pray about joining the work and helping any way you can.

**Hesston College:** April 27 to 30 - Theatre for Young Audiences: Tomato Plant Girl, a powerful exploration of friendship between Little Girl, Bossy Best Friend and the messy Tomato Plant Girl. This production will delight young audiences with its physical action and playful, high-energy conflict. Highlighting issues of bullying and acceptance of others, this play challenges the character of Little Girl to bravely discover the power of making up her own rules and leading with kindness. Learn more at [hesston.edu/theatre](https://hesston.edu/theatre).

### Bethel College:

--Sun., April 30 – Masterworks concert at Bethel College, 4 pm, featuring the Bethel College Oratorio Chorus, orchestra and soloists, performing Mozart and Beethoven; Memorial Hall

--Sat., April 29 – Friends of Kauffman Museum Sale (vintage and antique items and artwork), 9 a.m.-1 p.m., outside the front entrance and in the museum auditorium (2801 N. Main St., N Newton). All proceeds benefit the museum. For a partial list of items, see <https://kauffmanmuseum.org/event/friends-of-the-museum-vintage-antique-art-sale/>

## SERMON NOTES

### Pastor Katherine's Review

To support the health and ministry of its pastors, our church conducts periodic in-depth reviews of our pastors' work and ministry which involve the entire congregation. The goal of these pastoral reviews has always been to **strengthen the ministry of our pastors**. The Deacons are leading this year's in-depth review for Pastor Katherine Goerzen. We will not have a congregation review at this time since we had extensive conversations before Pastor Todd was hired.

The process we will be using for Katherine's review this year is called **"the Appreciative Way."** The Appreciative Way process differs from other methods we have used in the past.

- Instead of using a congregation survey, we will be discussing review questions in small focus groups.
- The Appreciative Way shifts from a problem-based to a **strength-based approach**, while also identifying areas for growth in ministry.
- The primary focus is to identify **"what is life-giving"** and **"what is working"** so we can maximize Katherine's ministry at Tabor.
- Another important aspect of "the Appreciative Way" will be for **Katherine to write a self-review using questions similar to the ones we will be discussing in focus groups.**

The Deacons have assigned a leader and a recorder for each focus group. Leaders will guide the discussion and the recorder will write down your comments from the discussion. **Notes from focus group recorders will be given to our Pastoral Review Advisor** from the Western District Conference, Roger Neufeld Smith. Roger will write a **draft report from the focus group notes and from Katherine's self-review**. After sharing that draft with Katherine and with the Deacons for their comments and suggestions, Roger will write a final report to be shared with the congregation.

**The date for these focus groups will be Sunday, May 7 during the Faith Formation time.** All adults will have the opportunity to attend since the youth and youth sponsors will be doing their review on May 3, which will allow them, along with Pastor Katherine, to provide a time of fellowship and games for our children.

If you have questions, contact one of the deacons: Carol Duerksen, Ruby Graber, Denise Nickel, Emil Schmidt, Kristi Unruh.

### OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE April 16, 2023

Offering	= \$ 3,275.00	Attendance	= 142
Adult FF	= \$ 45.98	Attendance	= 45
Jr. FF	= \$ 45.25	Attendance	= 44
Worship Link Views		=	58



Tabor Mennonite Church  
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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.*

Pastor: Katherine Goerzen	Todd Schlosser
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#### Deacons:

Carol Duerksen	Denise Nickel	Kristi Unruh
Ruby Graber	Emil Schmidt	