

Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXVIV

January 7, 2024

No. 1



EPIPHANY SUNDAY:

"HOW WILL WE KNOW...WHAT WE KNOW?"

Today we wrap up our Advent/Christmas worship series with Epiphany Sunday. During our service we will share from Matthew 2:1-12 and the story of the wise men, reflecting on the epiphanies we are left with that encourage and nudge us on our journey of faith as we depart from this season and enter the new year.

WORSHIP

PRELUDE		Russell Adrian
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		Janna Duerksen
LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP AND RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL		
*CALL TO WORSHIP		
*GATHERING HYMN	"As with Gladness"	No. 277
*GATHERING PRAYER		
*HYMN OF PRAISE	"Love Came Down at Christmas"	No. 255
*PASSING THE PEACE	<i>The Peace of Christ be with you ~ and also with you.</i>	
OFFERING OUR GIFTS		
CHILDREN'S STORY		Carrie Unruh
WORSHIP MUSIC	"We Three Kings"	Simeon Abrahams
SCRIPTURE READING	Matthew 2:1-12	Duane Duerksen
<i>The Word of God for the people of God. ~ Thanks be to God!</i>		
SERMON		Pastor Todd Schlosser
*HYMN OF RESPONSE	"Solemn Stillness, Weary Streets"	No. 276
CONGREGATIONAL SHARING & PRAYER		Pastor Todd Schlosser
*SENDING HYMN	"To Us a Child of Hope Is Born"	No. 259
*BENEDICTION		
*POSTLUDE		<i>*Please stand if you are able</i>

Sunday, January 7

Welcome to worship at Tabor Mennonite Church! This is Epiphany Sunday. Come together to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Brandon and Kristi Unruh and family. A special welcome is extended to all visitors.

9:30 am: Worship

YouTube Livestream (also available following the service)

<https://youtube.com/live/ELF0epkBW10?feature=share>

10:45 am: Faith Formation for everyone.

1:00 pm: Pastor Todd leads Bethesda Chapel Service

This Week

Bulletin announcements are due on Thursday morning at 8:00 am.

Mon, January 8,	9:30 am - Comforter tying and hand quilting on the MCC Sale quilt - Hospitality Hall
	5:30 pm - Faithful Fitness
	7:00 pm - Men's Bible Study
Tues, January 9,	9:30 am - Staff Meeting
Wed, January 10,	9:30 am - Comforter tying and hand quilting on the MCC Sale quilt - Hospitality Hall
	5:45 - 6:20 pm - Supper - Meat/Potato Quiche
	6:20 - 7:30 pm - Preschool through 5th grade
	6:30 - 7:50 pm - Jr. Hi and High School
	Jr Hi Music - 7:30-7:50
	High School Music --7:50-8:10

Next Sunday, January 14

9:30 am: Next Sunday Trent Voth, Assistant Professor of Bible and Religion at Bethel College, will be preaching. Scripture for reflection will be Mark 1:1-15.

10:45: Faith formation for everyone.

Prayer Requests

Remember to Pray for :

- ★ Pastor Katherine during her month of sabbatical. We invite God's presence to be with her and look forward to her return on Feb. 5.

- ★ Western District Conference: Pray for WDC and all its congregations as we begin a new year, remembering that the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, and God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning!
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Lora Nafziger and Mitch Rhodes, who began a three-year assignment in September with United Mission to Nepal (UMN), working from the United States. Pray for this family, as Lora, Mitch and two of their four sons take up residence in Kathmandu, Nepal, this month. Lora is serving as UMN's staff support and counseling advisor, and Mitch serves as the expatriate coordinator.

Praise God for:

- ★ Cleo Koop and the MDS Cabinet Shop were featured prominently in a couple local newspapers this past week. We are thankful for all who take part in this ministry and for its place in our community and invite continued prayer as they continue their faithful work.

The article from the Free Press is posted on the bulletin board.

Congregational Announcements

New Hope Shelter is moving to their new location on January 27.

They need volunteers to help with the move beginning at 8:00 a.m. that morning. They also have some kitchen appliances, stove, refrigerators and freezers, for sale. You can look at the list posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. If you are interested in helping move or in an appliance, please let Barb Abrahams know.

Food Pantry: Thank you for your continued support of the Tabor Food Pantry. Current needs include pancake and corn muffin mix, jelly, canned meat, cake mixes, and canned fruit. Monetary donations are also appreciated!

Tabor Mennonite Women: A schedule of **upcoming events** for Tabor Mennonite Women is posted on the bulletin board. Please sign up soon for participating in the events between now and May. *For our Feb. 10 Comfort tying event we will need someone for devotions. Everyone is encouraged to bring a snack to share. For the March 4 program with the Exchange Students, we need someone to do devotions and two for bringing snacks. March 25, 6:30 p.m. will be another project evening. Sign up if you would like to do devotions.*

Library: Beginning in the new year, a small display of books from our church library will be set up near the bulletin board (across from the mail-boxes). We hope this will entice you to check out a book either from the display or from the library! We have a great library, and we invite you to check it out. Watch for different books on the display every month!

~Library Committee

In 2024, the Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus (KMMC) will be part of a year long celebration recognizing the 150th anniversary of the arrival of Mennonites to Kansas. Our concerts in April will include selections that recognize this important anniversary and our special guest performers will be the Newton Community Children's Choir. For more than 50 years, the KMMC has been sharing concerts that bring glory to God, joy to those who listen and global mission relief through the concert offerings. Men and boys are invited to join this tradition of worship through four-part choral music as members of KMMC. See the registration poster or **contact Steve Janzen for Tabor.** Our rehearsals begin January 28.

~Mike Lamb, KMMC Steering Committee President, 316 253 1542

Community and Conference Announcements

Everence® January Workshop - Social Security and retirement income

Everence® will hold an informative Social Security and retirement income workshop on Thursday, January 25, starting at 6:30 p.m. Topics will include, Social Security strategies, including when to begin taking benefits, risks that can impact your retirement savings plus strategies to help your income last throughout retirement. There will also be plenty of time for questions.

The in-person workshop will be at the Everence office: 3179 N. Main St. Suite 1B, North Newton, KS. Information will be presented by staff from the Everence offices in Central Kansas. To register contact Everence at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or central.kansas@everence.com.

Bethel College:

- **Sun., Jan. 7 – Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum**, "The Western Meadowlark: The State Bird, but Not the Only Exceptional Bird in Kansas," with local birding expert Gregg Friesen, 3 p.m., *Kauffman Museum at Bethel College*.

- **Sun., Jan. 21 – Bethel College Music Department Honors Recital, 4 p.m.**, *Administration Building chapel*, featuring freshman, sophomore and junior vocal and instrumental students who performed exceptionally during the fall 2023 semester.

- **Bethel College's Faculty Speaker series begins Friday, Jan. 26**, and continues through April 19. During that time, seven different Bethel faculty members will discuss how listening opens up opportunities for learning as well as pathways for building, renewing and repairing relationships. All lectures are from 11 a.m.-noon in Kidron Hall at Kidron Bethel Village in North Newton, and are open to the public. Watch for further details!

Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp:

-**RMMC Scrapbook Retreat, Jan. 26-28** - Creating paper or digital photo books and sharing ideas and conversation is just another day for scrapbook participants. You still have time to register and spend the weekend documenting life memories and fellowshiping with others. Register at rmmc.org!

-Senior High Snow Camp at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp, February 16-18 - The theme this year is Faith Fusion. Looking to Colossians 3:17, worship sessions will explore the intersection of faith and daily life. Through engaging discussions and activities, we will delve into practical ways to integrate our beliefs into the fabric of our everyday experiences. Session topics for the weekend will include: Relationships and conflict, Finding purpose, Our phones and the internet. Please visit rmmc.org for more information.

Mennonite Church USA: Safe Church, Mennonite Church USA's newly formed abuse prevention ministry, now has a webpage available on the MC USA website. The webpage offers resources, including the updated Circle of Grace curriculum, to help faith communities keep children, youth and vulnerable adults safe from all abuse.

Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/safechurch

-Menno Snapshots: Mennonite Action, a grassroots movement, united more than 800 Mennonites representing 250 congregations across the U.S. and Canada in a mobilizing call for peace, on Tuesday, Nov. 28, on Zoom. The "Call to Action" served as a resounding demand for a cease-fire, an end to the U.S.- and Western-funded occupation of Palestine, and a push for lasting peace. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/mennonite-action

MCC: Register now for the MCC South Texas Learning Tour, February 4-9, 2024! This immigration-focused learning tour presents a unique opportunity to engage directly with organizations making a positive impact on our neighbors. You won't want to miss this opportunity. Details and online registration can be found at mcc.org/south-texas-lt. Deadline to sign up is Jan. 20. Please contact Abraham Diaz Alonso with questions, abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org.

Footsteps of Paul in Greece + 3-Night Cruise May 27 – June 6, 2024. Led by Pastor Weldon Martens, Grace Hill Mennonite Church; Whitewater, KS. This is a 11-Day Tour & Cruise to Athens, Thessalonica, Philippi, Corinth, Crete, Patmos, Ephesus, Mykonos & Santorini. Cost: \$3,219 + flights. Registration: Due by January 18, 2024. Contact Pastor Weldon Martens at: weldon.martens@gmail.com / 402-202-9276. Complete tour information & registration at www.tourwithweldon.com

AMBS: Online Short Course: Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture: Jan. 31 – March 12. Study how 16th-century Anabaptists approached Scripture — as compared with Catholics and other Protestants — and consider those similarities and differences in light of today. Instructors for this six-week AMBS Online Short Course are Laura Brennenman-Fullwood, PhD, and David Cramer, PhD. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Sign up by Jan. 10 to save \$50. ambs.edu/online-short-courses

-Grow in leadership and faith at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary! Join our vibrant learning community — on campus or at a distance, full time or part time — and focus on areas such as pastoral ministry, chaplaincy, faith formation, theology, peace studies, global Anabaptism or environmental sustainability leadership. We offer generous need-based financial aid and scholarships. Start your application today! ambs.edu/degrees-and-programs

Upcoming Dates:

January 2 - February 4: Pastor Katherine's third month of sabbatical
January 19-21 - Snow Camp at RMMC for Jr. High
January 24 - 9:30 am - Coffee Time at Tabor
January 28 - 2:00 pm - Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum Business Meeting at Goessel Church
February 10 - TMW Comforter Tying with Alexanderwohl Mennonite
February 16-18 - Snow Camp at RMMC for Sr. High Youth
March 4-6 - MCC Comforter Blitz, Yoder, KS
March 25 - 6:30 pm - TMW Project Evening

SERMON NOTES



OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE December 31, 2023			
Offering = \$	1,859.00	Attendance =	109
Adult FF = \$	NA	Attendance =	NA
Jr. FF = \$	NA	Attendance =	NA
Worship Link Views = 31			



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	Todd Schlosser
Cell: 316-727-4986	620-960-1718
email: kgoerzen@tabormennonite.org	tschlosser@tabormennonite.org

Deacons:

Carol Duerksen	Denise Nickel	Kristi Unruh
Ruby Graber	Emil Schmidt	