

Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXVV

April 6, 2025

No. 14



LENT 5: *Christ Collides with Our Blinders*

Blinders can be a hindrance to our perception and judgment. They restrict our view and obscure the complete picture of a situation. Blinders – both Zacchaeus' and the crowds' – collided with Jesus' message of love and compassion in this story from Luke 19. This story highlights the significance of recognizing our blinders and removing them to attain a clearer understanding of truth, faith, and

compassion. Who and what do our blinders keep us from seeing? What blinders must we remove to receive a clearer understanding of truth, faith, and compassion? What blinders may be keeping us from Christ's salvation? ¹

WORSHIP

PRELUDE Susan Merrifield

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Bill Unruh

RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL AND LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Luke 18:35-43*

*GATHERING HYMN "Open the Eyes of My Heart" No. 401
~accompanied by Pastor Katherine Goerzen

*GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAYER "Open My Eyes That I May See" No. 738

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

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

WORSHIP MUSIC Isabelle Alderfer

CHILDREN'S STORY Kara Swartzendruber

SCRIPTURE RECITATION *Genesis 1:25 & Revelation 5:13* Elementary School Children
Matthew 5:43-48 Junior Youth

SCRIPTURE READING *Luke 19:1-10* Leann Toews
The Word of God for the people of God. ~ Thanks be to God!

SERMON Pastor Katherine Goerzen

*HYMN OF RESPONSE "Will You Come and Follow Me" vs 1-3. 5 No. 540

*LENTEN CONFESSION

LENTEN RESPONSIVE ACTION *Breaking Bread*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND CALLING *Ephesians 1:17-19*

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING AND PRAYER Pastor Todd Schlosser

¹ This focus statement and the entire service are based on resources from Leader magazine's Lenten worship series "Christ Collides."

*SENDING HYMN

"Open My Eyes"

No. 732

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Please stand if you are able*

Sunday, April 6

Welcome to worship at Tabor Mennonite Church! Come together to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Jo-Ann Schmidt. A special welcome is extended to all visitors.

9:30 am: Worship

YouTube Livestream (also available following the service)

<https://youtube.com/live/IduXhdKs7zA?feature=share>

10:45 am: Faith Formation classes

-Financial Planning Seminar - Hayden Goerzen & Josh Booth (Everence Financial) & Reece Hiebert (Pankratz & Hodge Law) will be sharing ways to support Tabor Mennonite Church and other ministries important to you.

5:30 pm: Catechism

This Week

Bulletin announcements due on Thursday by 9:00 am.

Mon, April 7,

8:30 am - Faithful Fitness

9:30 am - Comforter Tying

7:00 pm - Men's Bible Study

Tues, April 8,

9:00 am - Staff meeting

Wed, April 9,

7:00 pm - Easter Choir Rehearsal

Thurs, April 10,

9:30 am - Coffee with the Pastors - Norm's in Newton

Fri-Sat, April 11-12,

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale - Hutchinson

Next Sunday, April 13

9:30 am: Next Sunday is *Palm Sunday* and our opportunity to celebrate and reflect upon the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. The scripture for reflection is Luke 19:29-44. Children 8th grade and younger should meet outside the sanctuary after announcements for our Palm Sunday Procession. As you experience the relief sale this week, we invite you to reflect on "How does the MCC relief sale, or your experience at the sale, fit the vision of what Christ's kingdom is like?"

10:45 am: Faith Formation

Prayer Requests

Remember to Pray for:

- ★ Western District Conference: Pray for youth ministry in WDC congregations, as pastors, families, mentors and teachers support young people and nurture their growth.

- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: Michael Oyer, in his new capacity as Mennonite Mission Network's program director for Service Adventure, has just completed a three-day visit to the unit in Colorado Spring, Colorado. Pray for wisdom for Michael and the unit leaders, Christian and Leigha Stoltzfus. Pray for a year of growing in faith for participants — Elisabeth Daudey, Alea Sagert, Sadie Sherman and Hannah Smith — and for their host congregation, Beth-El Mennonite Church.

Congregational Announcements

You are invited to donate lilies to honor loved ones at the worship service on Easter Sunday. Please deliver the plants to the east foyer of the church by 11 AM on Saturday April 19. Tape a label on the bottom of the pot with the name of the donor and the person(s) to be honored. Give the name of the donors and the persons to be honored to Diane Unruh (secretary@tabormennonite.org or on paper in her box) by Wednesday, April 16 at noon for inclusion in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. Donors may pick up their lilies after the Easter service. Plants left at the church after Easter Sunday will be used in future Sunday visuals and/or taken to Bethesda for residents to enjoy.

Easter breakfast: The fellowship team is hosting a potluck Easter breakfast before church on Easter Sunday morning. Breakfast will start at 9:00, with the Easter Sunday service following at 10:00. You are invited to join us and bring Easter breads, muffins, casseroles, fruit, etc to share. Drinks and table service will be provided.

Please join us for an enjoyable evening together. **Tabor Mennonite Women Mystery Evening is April 23.** Meet at the church at **5:30 pm** to carpool. Cost for the evening, including the meal, is **\$20**. The signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board. **The deadline to sign up is April 13.**

Sam and Adriana are anticipating their next big adventure with **Service Adventure** next year. Please put **April 27th** on your calendars as we will be serving a delicious meal to raise money for their voluntary service. More details will be coming soon.



VBS 2025
Registration Form

It's time to register for VBS! Children ages 4 (by 9-1-25) through current 5th graders are invited to join us for Waves of Wonder VBS the week of June 2-6, 2025 from 8:30a-11:45a at Tabor Mennonite Church. Please use the QR code to fill out the VBS registration form to let us know you plan to attend.

Current sixth graders wanting to participate in service projects as part of VBS should use the QR code for the 6th Grade VBS registration form. Registrations are appreciated by April 27, 2025. We look forward to seeing you in June!



6th grade VBS
Registration 2025

Community and Conference Announcements

Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus Concerts: The 120-member chorus includes members from our church. The concert will include traditional hymns and contemporary selections performed in four-part harmony. The concerts are free with an offering benefiting the global mission support work of Mennonite Central Committee.

- April 6, 2025, 4:00 PM. Richert Auditorium, Tabor College, Hillsboro, KS with Chamber Voices
- April 13, 2025, 4:00 PM. Memorial Hall, Bethel College, North Newton, KS. with Open Road and Woven

The Central Kansas Master Chorale will present Rutter's Requiem and Vivaldi's Gloria with pianist Karen Unruh and orchestra. Please join us for this special Masterworks Concert, directed by Dr. Joel Garber. This free event will be held at **3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 6 at Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 S Main Street, Hesston, KS.** Admission is free, donations encouraged. For more information, visit the chorale website at www.centralkansasmasterchorale.org.

Blood Drive: "Give Hope This Spring!" when you donate blood - April 7 between 12:00-6:00 pm. Note the earlier start time for appointment times. Sign up at redcrossblood.org. For more information contact Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081.

Register NOW for the Kids Meet Christ Launch Event! Western District Conference invites you to celebrate and learn more about the new grant-funded worship initiative Kids Meet Christ on **Saturday, May 3, from 11am-3pm at First Mennonite Church, Newton, KS** (in-person or virtually). Spanish interpretation will be available. Click [here to register](#). In-person participants will be the first to receive a kit of ready-to-use materials for children in worship! This is for anyone! (worship leaders, pastors, Sunday school teachers, anyone who is passionate about children).

Western District Women in Mission (WDWM) invites women and girls to their annual potluck salad supper on **Monday, April 28 at 6 p.m. at the Tabor Mennonite Church.** Our theme is "For the Beauty of the Earth." After the potluck and a meditation on God's creation, Rebecca Schrag will lead a floral design workshop with flowers provided by Firebranch Farm and other sources. Each participant will make a small bouquet to take home. **RSVP appreciated and required by April 15 at our website link:** <https://www.westemdistrictwomeninmission.org/events-1> An offering will be taken to help cover expenses. **Please bring:** a salad to share, a small vessel to make a bouquet (a tea cup is ideal), flowers from your garden if you have them, and a kitchen or garden shear if you have one.

First Mennonite/Casa Betania Church Youth Group of Newton, 429 East First, would like to invite you to a Verenike casserole supper on Wednesday, April 9, 5:30-7:00 pm. The menu will include verenike casserole, sausage, green beans, zweibach, cherry moos. Special dietary options are available. Proceeds will go towards our summer service trip.

Et Cetera Shop Volunteers Needed: As we work as an organization to increase our impact on both our local and global communities, we daily need the assistance of numerous volunteers to make this a reality. With only 10 paid staff members, much of the work is done by volunteers who graciously offer their time and skills. This is why we need you! With each new volunteer, we increase our capacity to assist with the needs of our local community. Please consider becoming a volunteer and joining our team at the Newton Et Cetera Shop!

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is seeking a Part-Time Administrative Assistant to provide administrative support to MDS Region 3 and Units within the region. *The complete job description and application are available on our website at mds.org.*

Life Enrichment at Bethel College: April 16, 10:50 -11:50 a.m.: Dr. David Janzen, “Artificial Intelligence: Threat or Opportunity?” There will be a **makeup session on April 30**, as follows: **9:30 - 10:30 a.m.:** Conrad Snider, “The Wonderful World of Ceramics” & **10:50 - 11:50 a.m.:** Dr. Jim Yoder, “Interesting Moons of Our Solar System”

Camp Mennoscah: Music and Quilt Auction at The Hub on May 2! Join Camp Mennoscah from 6-8:30pm for an evening of music, food and fellowship to benefit Camp Mennoscah. The Hub will donate 10% of all sales on May 2 to Camp Mennoscah. Musical groups include K81, Queen Jack Jericho, Brett and Caleb Klingenberg, and The Schrag Siblings. A Camp Mennoscah tee shirt quilt will also be sold through a silent auction. A picture of the quilt will soon be at www.campmennoscah.org Contact olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org for a bidding from a distance option. (The Hub, 100 S Christian, Moundridge, KS, <https://www.thehubbrickoven.com>) -Camp Mennoscah is looking for **kitchen helpers and other volunteers** to make great camp experiences. Parents can receive a camper discount up to full camp fees as a kitchen volunteer. Contact Olivia at Olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org or 316-293-7313. -Camp Mennoscah is busy preparing for summer youth camps and guests. It may take additional time to respond to your email or phone call. We will answer as soon as possible. If a quicker response is needed, please call 316-293-7313.

Bethel College: Now in the Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center – Annual Student Art Exhibit, featuring the work of 45 Bethel College students in various media, Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.

-Mon., April 7 – Bethel College Outstanding Alumnus Award presentation to George Rogers III '69, 11 a.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center

-2025 Masterworks Concert at Bethel College - Rehearsals will be Tuesdays (April 8, 15, 22, 29), 6-8 p.m., Choir Room in Luyken Fine Arts Center, with several longer rehearsals the weekend of the concert, which is May 4. Sign up ahead of time at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeMh6YvC_A3y1u5IzgphiXmJss8yKT59MTEm_QB4kgWfwWwmG/viewform (so that your contact information is available for digital materials, etc.) or at your first rehearsal.

-Sun., April 13 – John Thiesen, “Re-membering the 1870s Migration,” 3 p.m., Kauffman Museum auditorium. This Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum program is in connection to the current special exhibit, “Unlocking the Past: Immigrant Artifacts & the Stories They Tell.” Thiesen is co-director of libraries and archivist at the Mennonite Library and Archives at Bethel College.

-Fri. April 25, Sat., April 26, Sun., April 27 – Spring play at Bethel College, *The Bookstore* by Adam Szymkiewicz, Fri. & Sat., 7:30 p.m., Sun., 2 p.m. matinee, Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center). Friday evening performance interpreted for the d/Deaf community. Ticket purchase required (buy on campus weekdays at Thresher Shop; online at <https://www.bethelks.edu/fine-arts/theater/theater-department-presents/>; or at the door).

-SAVE THE DATE: Sun., May 4 – Masterworks concert

Hesston College: FloraKansas Native Plant Days

Join Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston for their FloraKansas Native Plant Days taking place April 24 through 28. This event is a semi-annual fundraising plant sale for the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains where you can view and purchase native plants. For more information and to peruse the available plant lists, visit: dyckarboretum.org/florakansas-native-plant-festival.

-Annual Juried Student Art Exhibit at Hesston College

The annual Hesston College Juried Student Art Exhibit will be open and available for viewing April 22 through May 9 in the Regehr-Friesen Gallery located in the Laban Peachey Center, 325 S College Drive, Hesston. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and admission is free.

Mennonite Mission Network: [Mennonite Mission Network is seeking a Training and Resources Facilitator](#)

- This full-time position can work from the Elkhart, IN or Newton, KS offices, remotely from anywhere in the country, or a hybrid of the two. They will support church planting efforts within Mennonite Church USA by developing leaders, providing training and coaching, managing projects, and fostering networks for new and missional congregations. For more information and to apply, visit MennoniteMission.net/Employment.

Just peace Pilgrimages: South Africa Racial Justice Pilgrimage — This pilgrimage will explore the long history and legacy of settler colonialism and apartheid, and will focus on the social constructs created around race, land dispossession and how they so thoroughly defined, and continue to define, South African society. **Underground Railroad Racial Justice Pilgrimage** — Explore the role of faith and faith communities that helped enslaved people escape their bonds. This chapter of the Racial Justice pilgrimage series delves deeper into the struggle for freedom, exploring the ways — both literal and figurative — people took in search of their emancipation.

For more information on the Just Peace Pilgrimages, to sign up, or to inquire about scheduling a trip for you and your group, visit MennoniteMission.net/JustPeace or contact Stephanie Weaver at StephanieW@MennoniteMission.net.

-There are still placements available for Service Adventure and Mennonite Voluntary Service for the 2025-26 service term. **Service Adventure** is a 10-month long program for ages 17-20 that invites its participants to live in community with their peers and unit leaders as they spend a year investing in faith formation and developing leadership skills. **Mennonite Voluntary Service** is a one-year long program for ages 20+ where participants join an intentional community, serve with a nonprofit, and plug into a community and congregation. Visit MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure or MennoniteMission.net/MVS for more information and to register.

Mennonite Church USA: Now is the time to register for MC USA’s Follow Jesus ’25 biennial convention in Greensboro, North Carolina, July 8-12, 2025! Register here: mennoniteusa.org/registration/ View the PowerPoint slide here: mennoniteusa.org/register-for-FJ-25_slide View the PDF here: mennoniteusa.org/register-for-FJ-25_PDF

-MC USA invites women from across the denomination to reclaim rest as resistance at the MC USA Women’s Summit on July 8, 2025, a transformative one-day event immediately preceding the Follow Jesus ’25 national convention in Greensboro, North Carolina. Read the news release here: mennoniteusa.org/news/womens-summit/ Register and learn more here: convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration/women-summit/ View the PowerPoint slide here: mennoniteusa.org/WIL-Womens-Summit_slide View the PDF here: mennoniteusa.org/WIL-Womens-Summit_PDF

-MC USA's Climate Justice Ministry has begun accepting applications for the Pam De Young Net Zero Energy Fund grant, due June 15, 2025. The Pam De Young Net Zero Energy Fund provides funds to assist MC USA congregations interested in forms of renewable energy. Learn more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/25-energy-grants

AMBS : Orienting With the Word: Congregations can now apply! Ready to read Scripture "as if your life depends on it"? This free five-month program of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's Faith Formation Collaborative builds community and biblical literacy through Bible study. Each participating congregation designates a small group to join with others in Confessional Bible Study. This practice helps communities make the Bible an indispensable tool for navigating daily living. Cohort One runs Aug. 1 – Dec. 21; apply by May 1. ambs.edu/orienting-with-the-word

Upcoming Dates

April 17 - Maundy Thursday Meal & Service - 6:00 pm
 April 20 - Easter Breakfast - 9:00 am
 Easter Service & Baptisms - 10:00 am (Note time change)
 April 23 - TMW Mystery Supper - Sign up on bulletin board
 April 27 - Fundraiser Meal for Adriana & Sam
 April 28 - Western District Women in Mission Salad Supper at Tabor
 April 30 - VBS Staff Orientation
 May 3 - Kids Meet Christ Launch Event (see announcement)

OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE Mar. 30, 2025

Offering =	\$ 3,986.00	Attendance =	115
Adult FF =	\$ 31.00	Attendance =	35
Jr. FF =	\$ 13.20	Attendance =	24

Worship Link Views = 67



KS MCC SALE DATES:

April 11 & 12

Website is: kansas.mccsale.org

ZWEIBACH must be at church before 9am Friday.
 PIES must be at church before 7:30am Saturday.
 It is AWESOME to see you young folks signing up to help with our baked goods. PLEASE put zweibach & pies on the tables by the South Door.
 PLEASE help take photos of Tabor folks at the Sale and upload them to our Tabor Church Google Photos account located on the church website under "MEDIA", or use this link: [Tabor Church Shared Photos](#). We can use those for our Sunday morning Service. PLEASE help.
 PLEASE sign up to take a 2 hour shift somewhere.
 Join the Tabor 5K Team at 8am at Rice Park for a Great Start to your day of celebrating.
 There is no better place to EAT OUT this weekend. Be a part of the Largest KS Mennonite Event of the year. PLAN TO SPEND MONEY TO HELP THOSE LESS FORTUNATE. 100% of the money spent goes to help those in need!!! Take advantage of this opportunity.
 CHILDREN'S COIN OFFERING was \$74.39 Thanks for your support!



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:

Larry Goerzen	Ruby Graber
Denise Nickel	Kristi Unruh