

Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXXI

January 4, 2026

No. 1



BE AMAZED: COME AND SEE

On this Epiphany Sunday, we are invited to be amazed at what God can do as we keep our eyes open and “come and see” what God is doing among us.

WORSHIP

PRELUDE Deloris Schmidt
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Leann Toews
RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL AND LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP
*CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 66:1-5*
*GATHERING HYMN *“As with Gladness” ~vs 1, 2, 4* No. 277
*GATHERING PRAYER
*HYMN OF PRAISE *“Hail the Bless’d Morn” ~vs 1, 3, 4, & 5* No. 272
*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
The Peace of Christ be with you ~ and also with you.
OFFERING OUR GIFTS
CHILDREN’S STORY Pastor Todd Schlosser
SCRIPTURE READING *John 1:35-51* Phil Unruh
SERMON Pastor Katherine Goerzen
*HYMN OF RESPONSE *“Lo, I Am with You” ~vs 1-5* No. 284
CONGREGATIONAL SHARING AND PRAYER Pastor Todd Schlosser
*SENDING HYMN *“O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem”* No. 275
*BENEDICTION
*POSTLUDE

**Please stand if you are able*

Sunday, January 4

Welcome to worship at Tabor Mennonite Church! Come together to worship God and experience God’s love. This morning you were greeted by Maynard Knepp & Carol Duerksen, Ed & Maja. A special welcome is extended to all visitors.

9:30 am: Worship

YouTube Livestream (also available following the service)

https://youtube.com/live/ZTSqZz9L_M?feature=share

There will be a short congregational meeting directly after the worship service to vote on the Revised Constitution & Bylaws.

10:45 am: Finger Food Fellowship

No Children’s Faith Formation

This Week

Mon, Jan 5, **8:30 am** - Faithful Fitness
9:30 am - Comforter Tying/Quilting
7:00 pm - Men’s Bible Study
Tues, Jan 6, **9:00 am** - Staff Meeting
Wed, Jan 7, **12 noon** - 1st Wednesday Lunch
5:45 pm-7:15 pm: Pizza & Game Night
6:00 pm: TMYF Christmas Party at Corynn & Julia’s house
7:15-8:15 pm: Church Choir
Thurs, Jan 8, **9:30 am** - Coffee with the Pastors at Norm’s in Newton

Next Sunday, January 11

Next Sunday the scripture for reflection will be John 2:1-11. Pastor Todd will be preaching.

Prayer Requests

- ★ Western District Conference: Pray for all WDC congregations during this coming year as they live into the calling to be communities of healing and hope, through the grace of God “who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to God’s power that is at work within us.” (Ephesians 3:20).

- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: Praise God that after nearly a year of chemo treatments, Caleb Schrock-Hurst is cancer free! Caleb and Stephanie plan to move to Taiwan early this year to serve with Mennonite Christian Hospital in Hualien.

Congregational Announcements

Trading Post: It's amazing to see what the Trading Post brought in again this year--\$3996.50! These funds will go to the ministries of the Tabor Food Pantry and Camp Mennoscah. Thank you again to everyone who contributed!

Community and Conference Announcements

Bethel College: Mon., Jan. 12 – Special one-evening show by local high school artists, 6-7 p.m., Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center on the Bethel College campus. You're invited to meet students from Augusta, Goessel, Hesston, Moundridge and Newton high schools and view their art at this come-and-go event.

-Sun., Jan. 18-Mon., Jan. 19 – Bethel College and Hesston College, with Newton Community for Racial Justice and the Newton Public Library, will collaborate to celebrate the annual Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. Jan. 18, 3 p.m., Hesston Mennonite Church: concert featuring Bethel College Concert Choir, Hesston College Bel Canto Singers, Central Kansas Master Chorale, and Roz McCommon and her band; **Jan. 19, 8 a.m., Bontrager Student Center at Hesston College,** prayer breakfast with local clergy; **Jan. 19, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.,** escape room with clues based on Dr. King's life and work, sponsored by NCRJ at the **Newton Public Library;** **Jan. 19, 6 p.m., Memorial Hall at Bethel College,** listening event for Dr. King's 1960 speech at Bethel; **Jan. 19, 7 p.m., program in Memorial Hall** with Roz McCommon, Bethel choirs, HC Bel Canto Singers and Bethel orchestra.

-SAVE THE DATE: Sat., Jan. 31 – Kauffman Museum annual Kansas Day event, "Flavor of Kansas," noon-4 p.m., museum parking lot and grounds. For more information, see the Kauffman Museum Facebook page or kauffmanmuseum.org

-SAVE THE DATE: Sat., Jan. 31 – Bethel College Academy of Performing Arts (BCAPA) 30th-anniversary event featuring collaborative pianist Mory Ortman, emeritus professor of music Don Kehrberg and more, **6:30 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center**

Hesston College: Community commemoration and celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2026-Hesston College is honored to partner with Bethel College and community organizations to offer a rich weekend of events commemorating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. January 18 and 19. Together, we are creating a shared menu of opportunities for reflection, learning and celebration across our broader community. Highlights of the weekend include concerts, lectures, films, service projects and a culminating service featuring Bethel College alumna, Roz McCommon. For a full schedule and information, visit engage.bethelks.edu/portal/MLK. **-Hesston College hosts Melva Kauffman Lecture Series**

Hesston College will host the annual Melva Kauffman Lecture Series January 25 and 26, welcoming internationally recognized peace studies scholar and Hesston College alumna Dr. Angela Lederach '04 for a three-part series titled "Slow Peace: Lessons from Grassroots Peacebuilders in Colombia." Dr. Lederach will speak on January 25 at 7 p.m. and on January 26 at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.. All events are free and open to the public and will be held at Hesston Mennonite Church. For more information visit hesston.edu/melva.

Bluestem U, the lifelong learning program of Bluestem Communities for individuals age 55 and better, is about to begin January 8, with "Life Upon the Wicked Stage: Classics of Western Theatre" taught by Lauren Friesen. Classes will be Thursdays, January 8 through February 12, 2026. There is still time to sign up! Other classes being offered for the winter/spring semester are "Health, the Human Face of Climate Change" taught by Dwight Krehbiel, and "Biblical Literature (Bib Lit) Crash Course" taught by Kevin Wilder. Courses are \$50 a piece. See bluestemu.org for more information and to register for classes.

Camp Mennoscah: Summer staff applications for the 2026 Summer Camps are open. [The application and further information can be found here](http://www.campmennoscah.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Programs%7CSummer%20Youth%20Camps%3E%3ESummer%20Youth%20Camp%20Staff%20Application) or at the link at the end of this announcement. Summer staff need to be 18 or older, preferably with one year of college, work or volunteering. Contact Olivia at 316-293-7313 or olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org with questions. <https://www.campmennoscah.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Programs%7CSummer%20Youth%20Camps%3E%3ESummer%20Youth%20Camp%20Staff%20Application>

-Thank you to everyone who has gifted us wish list items! We would be happy to receive a colander/strainer (~11" diameter) with handles, a deep pan (~5"x12"x17"), kitchen knives, "restaurant style" hot pads (example: <https://www.webstaurantstore.com/choice-10-x-11-terry-cloth-pan-grabber-bakers-pad/160TPH1011WH.html>), replacement ping pong

table net with clamps, and plastic cutting boards (no smaller than 12"X18", larger is fine). Office-related items include copier paper, postage stamps, and sticky notes. Toilet paper and kitchen/white paper towels are always welcome! Contact office@campmennoscah.org with questions.

Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp: [Jr. High \(Jan. 16-18\)](#) and [Sr. High \(Feb. 13-15\)](#), 2026! – Visit the camp web page (www.rmcc.org) for additional snow camp details /to register!

-Young Adult Snow Camp (Feb. 13-15) Join the Jr. and Sr. High Snow Camp activities and fellowship with participants serving as program assistants AND participants at just the right young adult price . . . free!

Mennonite Mission Network: Mennonite Voluntary Service - Live out your faith through service! Mennonite Voluntary Service (MVS) is now accepting applications for the 2026-27 term. This one-year volunteer experience is open to individuals age 20+, with the option to extend placements for an additional one to two years. Serve with organizations addressing critical community needs, such as health, education, immigration and more. You won't do it alone, though! By living with peers in a unit house and growing with a local faith community, MVSers join in the global movement to work for peace and a more just world. Ready to jump in? Go to MennoniteMission.net/MVS to learn more and apply.

MCC: Across the U.S.–Mexico borderlands — and in communities far beyond them — people of courage and compassion are responding daily to the realities of migration. MCC believes that listening to these stories helps us live more deeply into our values of peace, hospitality, and justice. Join us for **Borderlands & Beyond Monthly Charlas**, a new conversation series led by the MCC U.S. Immigration Network featuring MCC partners, community leaders, and borderlands practitioners who will share their work, struggles, insights, and hopes. Each *charla* provides a welcoming space to learn, ask questions, and explore how we can participate in faithful advocacy and accompaniment. Find out more and register for the Zoom link: mcc.org/events/borderlands-and-beyond-monthly-charlas-mcc.

Date: Every 3rd Thursday of the month (January to December 2026)

Time: 4:00 PM PT / 5:00 PM MT / 6:00 PM CT / 7:00 PM ET

Location: Online via Zoom

-MCC's high school essay contest is now open! The annual MCC U.S. National Peace & Justice Ministries essay contest highlights the perspectives of youth on significant public policy issues and promotes the involvement of young people in faithful witness to government authorities. Submissions may be in English or Spanish. (*A continuación véase la información en espa-*

ñol.) The contest is open to Mennonite, Brethren in Christ and other Anabaptist youth of high school age and to all youth who attend Mennonite high schools within the United States, including Puerto Rico. Regional prizes will be awarded, with the top three essays being submitted to the national competition. Regional top prize is \$200 and the national contest grand prize is \$1000. Contest topics, rules and resources can be found at mcc.org/events/high-school-essay-contest. The deadline for submitting entries is February 27, 2026. Essays should be submitted to centralstates@mcc.org, questions can be directed to beckyteiwes@mcc.org.

-The chill of winter is settling in and that means it's time for **MCC's Great Winter Warm-up!** From January to March, the goal is 10,000 comforters to help spread warmth, joy and comfort to people around the world. Start plans now to gather with friends and family to make comforters for MCC this winter! Find inspiring stories and instructions at mcc.org/gww.

MC USA: Is your congregation undergoing or anticipating a pastoral transition? Join MC USA's Rachel Ringenberg Miller, denominational minister for Ministerial Leadership, for an online Zoom meeting titled, **"Navigating Ministry Transitions," on Monday, Jan. 12 at 4 p.m. PT/7 p.m. ET.** She will explore the emotional and spiritual dynamics of pastoral change while guiding you through discernment, visioning and practical search processes. Spanish interpretation is available. Register here: <https://bit.ly/4pDziNk>

-Did your congregation celebrate the 500th anniversary of Anabaptism in 2025? As we mark the 501st birthday of the Anabaptist movement, MC USA would like to **share photos from across the church** that capture how congregations honored this milestone. Please submit one or two photos from your celebration, so we can highlight them on MC USA's social media channels this month. Please upload your photos by **Friday, Jan. 9**, using this form: https://MCUSA.formstack.com/forms/500th_anniversary_pictures

-MC USA joined Indigenous leaders and partner organizations in a Native-led ceremony in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, to honor the children who died at the **Carlisle Indian Industrial School** and to acknowledge Mennonites' historical involvement. Read more about this important step toward truth-telling and repair at: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/carlisle>

Menno Snapshots: Sue Park-Hur, MC USA director of racial/ethnic engagement, urges churches to embrace diverse, **Christlike hospitality** in the new year – and highlights a practical checklist to help leaders create welcoming spaces. Read her Menno Snapshots blog here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/ready-to-welcome>

AMBS: Earn a Doctor of Ministry in Leadership! Develop a customized learning plan around your goals, gain expertise in five key competencies and

grow in effective Anabaptist leadership while based in your ministry or leadership context. Students in this program must be able to travel to Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary each January to participate in the required weeklong residencies on campus. Apply by Sept. 15 to begin in January. ambs.edu/dmin

-Visit Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary! Schedule a personal visit (either in person or online) to learn about how our affordable on-campus and distance-friendly programs can prepare you to lead effectively and live faithfully — wherever God calls you. Contact us to learn more about the AMBS experience: ambs.edu/visit

CHRISTMAS EVE

Dec. 24, 2025

Offering for Camp Mennoscah Needs: \$899.00

Worship Link Views = 42

OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

Dec. 28, 2025

Offering = \$ 2,312.53 Attendance = 81

No Faith Formation

Worship Link Views = 39



Tabor Mennonite Church

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Phone: 620-367-2318

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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

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Deacons:

Nancy Funk Larry Goerzen

Nathan Graber Denise Nickel Kristi Unruh