Tabor Mennonite Church
April 30, 2017

Notes of Appreciation
THANK YOU to everyone who helped make the 49th Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale a huge success! You are all invited to celebrate this success at the KMRS annual meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 18, 6:30 pm at Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge. The meal is $15 a plate and you will pay at the door. Please RSVP to Jerry and Leann Toews, Archie and Kristin Schmidt or Eric Litwiller by April 30. Contact Barb Reeves at 620-543-6863, bj.reeves@live.com

Congregational Announcements

Summer Intern: We are excited to announce that we will be hosting Jayce Yoder, a current Bethel College Student, for his summer Ministry Inquiry Program experience. More information to come in the near future.

Card Shower: Tabor Church family, we are having a birthday card shower for Mildred Franzen. She will turn 88 on May 5. Her address is 3001 N. Ivy Drive, North Newton, Ks. 67117. Thank You! ~Doyle & Nancy Franzen

Vacation Bible School: Do you have preschool through 6th graders living in your house? Have you signed them up for VBS yet? If not, please dig out your paper copy and fill it out or register online. Plans are being made, and we hope your child will attend! Completed copies can go in Eunice Nickel or Sarahanne Unruh’s mailbox. Extra registration forms can be found in the church foyer.

Save the Date: VBS staff orientation will be Wednesday, May 10. If you are helping with VBS this year, put this evening on your calendar. Invitations and more information to follow in coming weeks.

The formation of the building committee is nearing completion. If anyone else is interested in being considered for this committee, please let me know by the end of April. I will be making contact with these people soon. ~Jim Schmidt

Kansas Mennonite Men’s Chorus concerts will take place on Sunday, April 30, 4:30 pm at Presser Hall, Bethany College, Lindsborg and on Sunday, May 7, 7 pm at Hesston High School, Hesston. A free will offering will be taken for the work of Mennonite Central Committee. Singers from Tabor are: Lewis Unruh, Steve Janzen, Yoder, a current Bethel College Student, for his summer Ministry Inquiry Program experience. More information to come in the near future.

Tabor Mennonite Women: The mystery evening is planned for May 17. Meet at the church by 5:20 p.m. to share rides and leave by 5:30 p.m. Cost is $20. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board by May 10.

Church Membership: Are you interested in learning more about church membership at Tabor? If yes, please talk to a Pastor by the end of April.

The McPherson Community Brass Choir under the direction of Jerry Toews will give a concert Mon., May 1 at 7 pm in the Church of the Brethren, 200 N. Carrie St., McPherson.

Spring Work Day: Please plan to participate in our annual work day on Saturday, May 6, beginning at 8 am and working until noon. There will be outside landscape work and inside cleaning and maybe some painting. It would be appreciated if volunteers could bring snacks for mid-morning break and fellowship. Thank you.

Fundraiser for the Tabor Building Project at The White Owl Barn, May 20 at 6:30 p.m. Come for an evening of food and fellowship. Please sign up by May 14 on the South Bulletin board. Cost is a $50.00 per person, minimum donation.

Register now for Summer Camps: Scholarships of $50 are again available through the Tabor Mennonite Church Education Committee for children attending either Camp Mennoscah or Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. Sign up on the bulletin board with your name and the dates you will be attending camp. When registering, mark the box on the form indicating that you are receiving a scholarship from Tabor and a check will be mailed to Camp Mennoscah. Register with Camp Mennoscah before May 1 to receive a $10 discount.

Conference Announcements

Prayer Requests:
★ Western District Conference: Pray for WDC pastors and chaplains, that they would sense the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit as they provide leadership within their congregations, communities and other organizations.
★ Mennonite Mission Network: The Centro de Estudios, a ministry of the Spanish-speaking Mennonite congregations in Uruguay, develops church leaders and strengthens their Anabaptist identity. MMN requests prayer for this mobile study program that travels to bivocational leaders’ locations and permits them to study evenings after work.
★ Mennonite Education Agency: Give thanks for the work of photographer Sharon Hoogstraten (Citizen Potawatomi Nation), who has generously loaned 22 large-scale photographs of Potawatomi people in regalia to AMBS for an exhibit on campus this spring, in connection with the Rooted and Grounded Conference and the Trail of Death pilgrimage course. May the images move viewers to honor the resilience and flourishing of First Nations people as they also remember the traumas they have endured in this land.

Camp Mennoscah: -There are still openings for kitchen staff and nurse for the week of June 11-17. Email: office@campmennoscah.org.

Step Up - Youth wanted for participation in the Future Church Summit in Orlando: About 40 spots remain open for the Step Up program – an opportunity for high school age youth to participate in the Future Church Summit at this summer’s Mennonite Church USA Convention in Orlando. This opportunity was initially open to only three youth per conference. Now, any interested youth attending convention may participate. Participants will attend an orientation seminar and be included in table groups during the July 6-8 Future Church Summit. Additional information and a link to registration can be found at http://convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration/youth/.
Coming to a church near you! Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 6, 7 pm when the Theatre of the Beat, from Stouffville, Ontario, is coming to the Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church (655 S. Lorraine, Wichita) with the play “This Will Lead to Dancing.” The play follows two teens from a Mennonite congregation’s youth group who go on a hunger strike until their church decides to accept LGBT people as members. In her hunger, one of the girls begins to hallucinate the ghost of Menno Simons, who becomes a central character in the play. The writer, and theatre’s artistic director, Johnny Wideman, conducted interviews with LGBT Mennonites and two allies who work within the community and incorporated some of their reflections and stories. In discussions of church policy over sexuality and church membership, there has been much discussion over “forbearance”. Wideman wanted his play to represent those who, he believes, have shown the most forbearance, the LGBT community. Tickets are $10 and available at the door. Refreshments will be served after the play.

Mennonite Central Committee: April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Mennonite Central Committee U.S. is offering four booklets that could help you and your congregation create a community of care for those affected by sexual violence and to find ways to act against it. Understanding sexual abuse by a church leader or caregiver Abuse: Response and prevention – A guide for church leaders Created Equal: Women and Men in the Image of God Pornography: Lies, Truth and Hope. To order these free booklets, email resources@mcc.org or call toll free, 888.563.4676.

As immigration enforcement tightens in the U.S., women, children and teens from Central America who are fleeing domestic and sexual violence in their home countries encounter quick deportation or harsher legal processes and extended detention when they seek refuge in the U.S. To learn more about this issue, including how to speak with your legislators about acting compassionately, read this Action Alert from the MCC U.S. Washington Office, mcc.org/protect-women-children

Mennonite Disaster Service: We need volunteers in Ashland along with skid steers and A/UTV’s. Work will consist of cleaning up barbed wire fence. Transportation, lunch, water and tools will all be provided. Also, there is a need for several skid steers and A/UTV’s to be used in the area for the next 6-8 weeks. If you know of an individual or company that would be will to provide this please let me know. Volunteers should call, text or email with their availability. Jordan Miller jordanmiller795@gmail.com 316-217-4570.

Bethel College Wind Ensemble concert, Today, April 30, 3 p.m., Memorial Hall

Seminars simplify Medicare and Social Security: Everence Financial will provide information about Medicare and retirement income at two upcoming seminars. The Medicare seminars will be held on May 1 and will include what Medicare covers, the differences between plans that supplement Medicare, and enrollment deadlines. The retirement income seminar, held on June 5, will help you determine if you have enough money to retire, what to do if the market doesn’t cooperate and how to know if your savings will last. Seminars are held at 7 p.m. at the Everence office in Hesston. To reserve your spot, contact Michelle Ramer at (620) 327-4043 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale is blessed with a Board of Directors that seeks to fulfill the mission of our Sale. Several of our very enthusiastic Board Members have asked to be replaced. We thank them for their past service. We need to nominate 4 or 5 people to our election ballot to be considered at our annual meeting. Please don't hesitate to volunteer to serve on the Board or help our nominating committee by suggesting potential nominees. Please send all suggestions to Arlin Buller at ambuller@cox.net. Thanks!

Harvey County Habitat for Humanity is sponsoring a special aluminum can drive May 6 through June 6. Drop off locations are located at both Newton Dillons store parking lots in the Habitat for Humanity Houses. Please take large amounts of cans and or metal to All Metals at 401 W. first, Newton, Mon. - Fri, 9am - 4:30pm. Be sure to designate that the donation is for Harvey County Habitat for Humanity. Now is an excellent time to clean our the garage and sheds for aluminum cans and metal and help this deserving organization.

Offender/Victim Ministries: Want to visit someone in prison!? There is an upcoming training for new volunteers on Monday, May 15 from 12-4pm at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility, "Old School House." We are searching for more volunteers to begin visiting inmates through Offender Victim Ministries M-2 program. We are also forming a choir at the HCF East Unit. Would you like to sing in this? Do you know someone who could help provide musical leadership? Contact Ben Kreider at ben@offendervictimministries.org for more info on getting involved in M-2 or the choir.

Parkinson’s Support Group: Kidron Bethel will host the next Parkinson’s Support Group meeting Tuesday, May 2, at 2:00 p.m. in Menno Hall. Susie and Jim Wickhiser will share on the topic “Partners Reflecting on Parkinson’s Disease.” All interested persons are welcome.

Do you live for a good story? Are you passionate about God’s presence and work in the world? If so, work for Mennonite Mission Network as our writer and multimedia content producer. This full time position will be located in the Newton, KS or Elkhart, IN office. Learn more at www.MennoniteMission.Net/about/Employment. If interested, please send a résumé to StaffRecruit-ment@MennoniteMission.net.

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