Tabor Mennonite Church
May 7, 2017

Notes of Appreciation
Thank you so much for your recent donation of Relief Kits to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)! We are receiving many requests from our partners for these kits, and many are going to refugee camps in Jordan, as well as disaster areas in Haiti. Thank you for your generosity! - Kate Mast, workroom supervisor

Congregational Announcements

Teacher Appreciation: All teachers and helpers of Sunday morning and Wednesday evenings are deeply appreciated. Your commitment to Tabor’s young people, youth, and adults is heartfelt and worthy of recognition. Please stop by the table in the foyer this Sunday, May 7 and choose your gift from the Education Committee. Know that your work and dedication is valued not only by the committee but also by the children and adults you teach or lead.

The TMYF wishes to thank all of you for your tremendous generosity, support, encouragement and prayers for us this year! It has been a meaningful year for us so far and we look forward to what lies ahead. We are excited for the opportunity to attend the MCUSA Convention, to engage in meaningful worship with others from around the country, to hear speakers and attend seminars that help to deepen our faith, to grow in our love and understanding of God and God’s will for our lives, and to grow together in fellowship as a youth group.

As Convention approaches, however, we find ourselves about $2,500 short. This is due in part to poor weather, canceling one night, and low attendance for Night in the Barn. To meet our goal for funds this year, the Youth Group will host a Russian Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 21. This will begin at 8:30am (following our Lock-in at the church building the night before). We also are continuing our “Wall to Orlando” envelope fundraiser. Thank you to all of you who have already donated! As always, thank you for your support, your prayers, your encouragement, and your generosity. They are deeply appreciated!

MCC Coffee Mugs: The next few Sundays there will be a small table in the foyer by the church office with the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) coffee mugs on it. This years mugs had a picture of Tabor church. If you are interested, leave $10 in the money bag and make your own change. If you write a check, make it to MCC.

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.

Camp Washunga is only a couple weeks away!
1) The facilities that the Goessel Community Junior Highers use at Camp Washunga no longer have a piano. Because worship is such a large part of our experience at camp, we are in search of an electric keyboard to take along with us! If you or someone you know would have one we could borrow for the weekend, please let us know.

2) The Snack Shack at Camp Washunga is not open for business this year. If you would like to donate food or funds to help cover the cost of snacks, please let us know. Examples could include, but are not limited to: fresh fruit, crackers, snack mixes, cookies.

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.

Kansas Mennonite Men’s Chorus concert will take place on Sunday, May 7, 7pm 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, Lee Goertzen and Donavon Schmidt.

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.

Tabor Building Project Fundraiser at the White Owl Barn, May 20 at 6:30 p.m. Come for some pulled pork and brisket and wonderful fellowship. Please sign up by May 14 on the bulletin board. Cost is $50.00 per person, minimum donation.

Pioneer & Indian Trails in the Goessel Area: The Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum is excited to announce that they will be hosting a session on trails presented by Brian Stucky. Brian is an avid trail researcher who will share some of the knowledge he has gained from his own work dowsing the path of nearby trails. The Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum invites the public to this free presentation to learn about these trails. This will be on May 13 at 7 p.m. in the 1906 Preparatory School Building on the museum campus.

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale: You are all invited to celebrate this success of the relief sale at the 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 May 14.

Blood Drive: Working around busy spring schedules 24 donors and 8 volunteers helped the recent blood drive meet our goal! Mark your calendar for the next opportunity between 2:00-6:00 on Friday, June 23. Remember you are eligible to donate if you are at least 17 years of age and weigh 110 lbs.

Conference Announcements

Prayer Requests:
★ Western District Conference: Pray for WDC congregational and conference delegates planning to attend Mennonite Church USA assembly in Orlando this summer, as they prepare and discern action on the Seeking Peace in Israel-Palestine resolution.
Mennonite Mission Network: MMN requests prayer for thousands of Mennonites in Democratic Republic of Congo who have gone into hiding to escape the violence that has claimed hundreds of lives. Pray that God would provide for those who have fled, for stable national leadership, and for an end to the fighting.

Mennonite Education Agency: Pray for Bethel College instrumentalists and choirs performing the annual Masterworks concert this afternoon, and especially for piano soloist Karen Bauman Schlabaugh, Bethel music professor, who will retire at the end of the school year.

Mennonite Church USA: Be in prayer for all the graduates of the various Mennonite-related colleges, universities and seminaries who are finishing their academic work this month. Pray that they would be open to God’s leading as they follow their call on the next steps of their journeys.

Mennonite Disaster Service: We ask you pray for the communities in the South and Midwest impacted by the storms last week. We want you to especially think of the areas in Texas, Missouri, and Arkansas that have been hit particularly hard and have left at least 20 dead. Yet, we are also thankful for the protection God provided to parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Church in Emory, TX. A twister destroyed all of the building except for the hallway where church-goers were huddled together for the duration of last Sunday’s storm. Thanks be to God.

Western District Conference: To fulfill the goals of the 2015 Mennonite Church USA delegate assembly resolution, a statement of support for our Palestinian and Israeli partners in peacemaking, and to prepare delegates and congregations for the 2017 resolution at the upcoming convention in Orlando, a WDC Israel-Palestine Task Force has been developed. The letter posted on the bulletin board from the Task Force gives reference to information to help Orlando delegates prepare to vote on the resolution.

Camp Mennoscah:
Hello, Nurse! Camp Mennoscah is looking for a nurse with a valid license for June 11-17. This position comes with a stipend or camper discount. Campers needs are usually bandages, a listening ear for homesickness, and medications dispensed. It's going to be a fun time!

Thank you to our many presenters and attendees and committee members for the Camp Mennoscah Retirees Relaxation Retreat! It was a great time with great food made by Becky. We will see you all next year!

Brave souls! What fun it was to see men and boys traipsing through the rain and mud at Camp Mennoscah this past weekend! We’re so glad you visited Camp Mennoscah and hope your socks have dried out. There surely can’t be two years of that much rain during Men & Boys Retreat, so we’ll be expecting sun and warm weather in 2018. See you soon!

Information for all of the above or to register:
Email: office@campmennoscah.org.
Contact: olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org.

The Hesston College Bel Canto Singers will present their final concert of the year at 4 p.m., Saturday, May 13, at Hesston Mennonite Church on the Hesston College campus. The program, entitled "God is Near," is the first of a 12-concert tour throughout the Midwest. "God is Near" is inspired by our call to seek out faith in our lives.

You are invited to a concert, Mission through Music, with proceeds to benefit Mariana Martinez, an international student seeking sponsorship to attend Hesston College. The performance will feature Hesston College music students on Tuesday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m. at Whitestone Mennonite Church, Hesston, Kan. A free-will offering will be collected, with all proceeds going to benefit the Martinez family. More information on the event and the Martinez family can be found at horizon.hesston.edu.

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 Dillon’s 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.

Mennonite Mission Network is seeking a full time Senior Executive for Human Resources who is passionate about God’s reconciling mission to the world, committed to Jesus Christ, and active in a local congregation. Anticipated start date is July, 2017. Read the full position description at www.MennoniteMission.net. Please send resumé and cover letter to StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net.

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association is sponsoring "Goodwill Tour to Freeman, South Dakota". This is a 3day tour starting July 18. We will be busing to Freeman, learning about their culture and sites. We will be visiting a Hutterite Colony and having dinner there. We will view the site and learn about the events that led to five young boys freezing to death during the blizzard of 1888. We are working to make this an exciting tour. Currently there is room available. If you have an interest in either of these trips, contact LaVern Stucky, 620-983-2348 or lavern@powwwer.net.