

# Tabor Mennonite Church

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January 13, 2019

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## Note of Thanks

Thank you for surrounding our family with healing, hospitality, and hope through prayers, food, cards, hugs, music, sharing of memories, and countless acts of kindness. We feel very blessed.  
~The Family of Alvin Schmidt

Thank you to Russell Adrian, Jerry Toews, Marcene Entz, and Ken Rodgers for finding a nice used grand piano at a great value for our new Fellowship Hall! The piano will be delivered and tuned in time for our first events in the new space! Marcene Entz donated the money for this purchase in honor of her parents, Ray and LuEtta Frey.

Thank you for your recent donation to Camp Mennoscah! Because of your gift to the general fund, camp can continue providing the programs, facilities, staff, and space so that campers of all ages can encounter God through creation, fellowship, and worship, including many from our congregation! Blessing to you all in this holiday season. We are very thankful for Tabor and wish you a wonderful start to 2019!  
~Michael Unruh, executive director

## Congregational Announcements

**Coming to a church very near you!** The Hesston College Bel Canto Singers AND the Bethel College Concert Choir will be performing here at Tabor on February 17 at 7:00 p.m. Bringing these two choirs together for a concert is a dream come true for their directors, and it will be a very special evening indeed. Save the date for this fundraising concert to support the building fund!

**Tabor Church Auditors will be meeting soon.** Church Treasurers, please submit your financial and bank statements to the church office as soon as possible. **In addition, reports for the annual report book need to be submitted now.** Electronic format preferred. Email to: [kfunk@tabormennonite.org](mailto:kfunk@tabormennonite.org).

**Directory Updates** and changes to the church directory are requested at this time. Please contact the church office at [kfunk@tabormennonite.org](mailto:kfunk@tabormennonite.org).

**Tabor Mennonite Women** will have a work day on Saturday, January 19 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. We will be tying comforters and embroidering tea towels. If you've never done either one of these, now would be a great time to come and learn and enjoy a great time of fellowship as we work together.

**Tabor Church's week at New Hope Shelter** is January 30 to February 5. The beginning of a new year is a good time to try something new! Join us in volunteering at the shelter. Training for volunteers happens the third Monday of each month from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at New Hope. If you are at all interested, or have any questions, please let Austin Unruh or Barb Abrahams know. It is truly a rewarding experience and you will get so much appreciation from the residents.

**The Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum** annual meeting will take place on Sunday, January 20, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. It will be held at the Goessel Mennonite Church and after a short business meeting our guest speaker will be Brian Stucky. His topic will be the Cherokee Trail in Kansas. A Faspa will follow the program.

**On January 20 the Alexanderwohl Peace Committee invites you to our dessert potluck at 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall.** Our speakers will have an environmental focus. Sarah Balzer, a junior at Bethel College, won the national C. Henry Smith Oration Contest. She will share her speech on how plastics create many environmental justice issues, and invite questions/discussion. Maynard Knepp will then share how the MCC Center works with recycling, and their dreams for expanding it. Everyone is invited to attend -- bring your favorite dessert to share.

**Is there anything better than a Vacation Bible School package that helps children discover signs of God in the Bible and in their lives?** Well, yes! What's even better is making those discoveries available to all age groups in the church! Come to a launch event for Detectives of Divinity VBS PLUS on February 23, 9-10:30 a.m. at Bethel College Mennonite Church. VBS directors, pastors, teachers, leaders, and parents—all are invited to come, AND everyone who RSVPs by February 15 will receive a free devotional book, *Now It Springs Up*. Come see materials for preschoolers, children, youth and adults, featuring Bible stories and lots of games, crafts, activities, skits and ideas for you to make it happen in your congregation. RSVP to [springsforthfaith@gmail.com](mailto:springsforthfaith@gmail.com)

## Conference Announcements

### Prayer Requests:

- ★ Western District Conference: Pray for interim and transitional pastors guiding WDC congregations during times of change, visioning, and preparation for future leadership.
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: This week, the Council of International Anabaptist Ministries will gather at MCC's Welcoming Place in Akron, Pennsylvania. MMN requests prayer for the leaders of North American and global mission agencies as they seek to collaborate in doing God's work in the world.
- ★ Mennonite Education: Pray for participants in AMBS's Spiritual Guidance Seminars as they strengthen their skills in offering spiritual direction. May they and their directees be transformed as they listen for God together.

**Western District Conference year-end snapshot:** At Annual Assembly last July, WDC members gathered for worship and Bible study with guest teacher-singer-songwriter Bryan Moyer Suderman. We were enriched through workshops, sharing in the delegate session, and lots of good food and fellowship! Connecting churches through Annual Assembly is just one way your gifts to WDC empower congregations to witness and invite others to faith in Jesus Christ, dwell in just and loving relationships, and connect to God's mission in the world. As we work together to meet WDC's budget goal for the fiscal year (ending January 31, 2019), we request your donations online at <http://mennowdc.org> or sent to WDC at PO Box 306, North Newton, KS 67117. Thank you for planting these seeds of hope!

**Summer staff applications WELCOMED!** Camp Mennoscah is searching for and reaching out to those folks 18 and older to be part of our summer leadership family. We're looking for lifeguards, music leaders, crafts leaders, office and media assistants, naturalists, and grounds/maintenance. It will be a summer of fun times, meaningful relationship building, and leadership skills! Apply online at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org) under Summer Youth Camps. This is an amazing way for young adults to serve and grow in faith!

**Camp Mennoscah** is now accepting applicants for a quarter-time (10 hours/week) **custodial-housekeeping position**. The position will remain open until filled. Contact Olivia at 620-297-3290 or [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) for further information.

**Online registration for 2019 Camp Mennoscah Retreats opened January 12!**

Go to [www.campmennoscah.org](http://www.campmennoscah.org) to register for retreats like Scrapbook and Crafts, Family Weekend, and Retirees Retreat.

**Medicare workshop scheduled for January:** Everence will continue its popular retirement workshop series in 2019, starting with Make Medicare an easy step on Monday, Jan. 14, at 6:30 p.m. Attendees will learn about the various Medicare plans and what they cover; plans that supplement Medicare; and enrollment details and deadlines. The workshop will be presented by Everence staff and will be held at the Everence office at 3179 N. Main St., North Newton. Reserve your spot soon by contacting Michelle Ramer at (316) 283-3800; (877) 467-7294 or [michelle.ramer@everence.com](mailto:michelle.ramer@everence.com).

**The Parkinson's Support Group** at Kidron Bethel will meet Tuesday, January 15, at 2:00 p.m. in Menno Hall. Haylie Berning, director of the Bethel College Academy for Performing Arts dance program, will talk about the effectiveness of movement for Parkinson's Disease and share a sample class of 15-20 minutes of movement. All are welcome.

**Bethel College:** Mon., Jan. 21 – Bethel College annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration, with guest speaker Sherdeill H. Breathett Sr., Wichita, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center

**Join Offender/Victim Ministries (OVM)** for our annual Reaching Out Letter Writing Event! Monday, January 21 from 1-5pm at OVM (900 N Poplar, Newton). Letters and cards will be delivered to individuals incarcerated at Hutchinson Correctional Facility on February 14. If you are interested in Reaching Out Letter Writing materials for your church or small group, contact [ben@offendervictimministries](mailto:ben@offendervictimministries) to arrange for delivery.

**Offender/Victim Ministries (OVM)** presents The Prison Theater Project, a collaboration between Bethel College and Hutchinson Correctional Facility, on Friday, January 25, 7pm at HCF East Unit (400 S Halstead Rd, Hutchinson). RSVP to [ben@offendervictimministries.org](mailto:ben@offendervictimministries.org) by Friday, January 11 to attend. Preceding this event at 5pm, all are welcome to join us for OVM's Annual Meeting at St. Teresa Church (211 E 5th, Hutchinson). Soup supper provided.

**Join us for an MCC Lunch & Learn** with John Sharp on Wed., Jan. 30 from 12pm-1pm at MCC in N. Newton (121 E. 30th St.). John will share his presentation, Changing the World One Life at a Time: the MJ Sharp Story. MJ and his colleague

Zaida Catalán, part of a U.N. panel of experts investigating conflicts that have been ongoing in Congo since the mid-1990s, were abducted and killed in March 2017. MJ served with MCC in the Congo prior to his work with the U.N. John is passionate about telling MJ's story and he and his wife Michelle's journey with him. John will also share updates to the investigation that is ongoing in Congo. Please RSVP to this event by January 25 to [patsydirksen@mcc.org](mailto:patsydirksen@mcc.org). Lunch will be catered by Mojo's Coffee Bar, please list food sensitivities when you RSVP.

**Hesston College's annual Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series (AVDS)** conference, Feb. 1 to 3, on the Hesston College campus. "Growing More Like Jesus from the Outside In: Transforming Heart and Mind" will be led by Christian spirituality experts Mark and Lisa Scandrette, referencing their practical Ninefold Path of the Beatitudes. Register before Jan. 28. Learn more and register now at [hesston.edu/avds](http://hesston.edu/avds)

**"Choices"**, a play by Gretchen Eick will be presented at Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church, Wichita, KS on Saturday, January 26, 7 pm, admission is free. It is a story that came to Gretchen during her time of teaching in Bosnia this past year, along with her husband, Rev. Mike Poage. They are active with the Peace Committee of Lorraine Avenue. In the play a young Bosnian woman with a university degree, who can't find work, meets a Bosnian-American man wishing to be connected to his birth culture. Each must make choices including what religion and country mean to them. Additionally, a Hallal meal from Omar's Kitchen will be available at 6 pm for a donation. To reserve your meal – contact [office@lorraine.church](mailto:office@lorraine.church) or call 316-682-4555.