Meeting God in the Unexpected: The Dry Bones

During this time of upheaval, anxiety, and illness, we may find ourselves crying out “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost!” Yet the God whom we gather together to worship is a God of life. May God’s Spirit breathe new life into each of us, filling us with hope and assurance that God will indeed act and bring renewal, even when everything around us seems dried up.

WORSHIP

PRELUDE
Diane Unruh

WELCOME AND PRAYER
Carol Duerksen

HYMN
“Spirit of the living God”
No. 349
Michelle Unruh, leader

SCRIPTURE READING
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Pastor Katherine Goerzen

SERMON
Pastor Katherine Goerzen

HYMN
“Breathe on me, breath of God” -vs. 1-3
No. 356

SENDING and BLESSING
Pastor Rosie Jantz

POSTLUDE
“New earth, heavens new”

Words for hymns: in bulletin
See attached document for worship transcript

Sunday, July 26

Come together in spirit to worship God and experience God’s love. As we unite our hearts, may we be mindful of God’s saving grace, especially as we face difficult circumstances through uncertain times.

We invite everyone to join our drive-in church service at 8:30am. Come to Tabors’ East parking lot, park cars facing West at least 6 feet apart, and turn off vehicles during the service. You will be able to hear the service by tuning your car radio to FM 107.1 or by listening to the speakers with your windows down. Please bring ice water to stay cool. The service will not be longer than 45 minutes. We plan to keep the church building locked during the service. We will have an opportunity to receive an offering after the service. We ask anyone who exits their car to please wear a mask. We look forward to seeing you on July 26! We will still have our Zoom Faith Formation classes at 10:30 that morning.

This Week

Pastor Phil is on vacation through July 29.
Tuesday, July 28, 10 am: Staff Zoom meeting.
Wednesday, July 29, 7:00 pm: Men’s Bible Study. See announcements.
Thursday, July 30, 7:00 pm: Christian Ed Zoom meeting.

Next Sunday, August 2

Next Sunday join the Western District Conference Assembly Digital Worship Service “Living in Exile”. God will be praised through wonderful music with Texas flair, a story of God’s presence by a first-generation immigrant (Sue Park-Hur), sermon by Danny Carroll R (biblical scholar who specializes in stories of God’s people on the move) and a blessing of WDC ministers. The prerecorded worship will go live on the WDC Facebook page via Facebook Live on Sunday, August 2, 10 am Central. After Sunday morning, the worship video will be available for viewing on the WDC YouTube channel.

Prayer Requests

This past Sunday Pastor Rosie shared about her plans to retire beginning in December of this year. Thanks be to God for her calling to ministry and for the many ways that she has cared for and shared the good news of God’s peace with our congregation. Lord, hear our prayers for Rosie and Kent as she prepares for this transition, as well as for Deacons and Church Council as they begin discerning next steps for Tabor’s pastoral leadership. (Please see Rosie’s letter, attached to email or included in mailing).
Remember to Pray for:

★ Pastor Phil and family as they are on vacation and travel home this week. Lord, hear our prayer.
★ The upcoming WDC Annual Assembly as delegates meet virtually. Delegates for Tabor Church are: Pastors Phil, Katherine, and Rosie, Carol Duerkson, Duane Duerkson, Emil Schmidt, and Erica Stoltzfus. Lord, hear our prayer for meaningful discussion and wisdom for decision making.
★ our community and surrounding communities who are now dealing with more cases of COVID-19. Pray for awareness and responsibility in doing our part in helping to stop the spread of this virus. Also pray for our schools as they prepare to resume. Lord, hear our prayers. Remember to Pray for:
★ Western District Conference: Pray for the Holy Spirit to empower and guide WDC’s online gathering for Annual Assembly next weekend, as we engage the theme “Living in Exile.”
★ Mennonite Mission Network: July 31 is Stanley W. Green’s last day as MMN’s executive director after 27 years of faithful service. Pray for Stanley and his wife, Ursula, as they settle in California where Stanley will work as conference minister for the Pacific Southwest Mennonite Conference. Ask God’s wisdom for Michael J. Sherrill as he becomes executive director on August 1.

Congregational Announcements

Zoom Faith Formation: We invite everyone to connect to a Zoom video call at 10:30am. After about 15 min. of connecting, sharing prayer requests, and a prayer, we will send people to breakout rooms. Zoom connection information is below (you can connect using a smartphone, tablet, computer, or you can even call in using a regular phone). Feel free to contact Pastor Phil if you have any questions. We look forward to connecting in this way!

- Join Zoom Meeting by clicking this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7022907372?pwd=Ty9JK0Vvb1ZOLzFnaWxwdEyvYXRzd209
- Or, open Zoom and type in the following information:
  Meeting ID: 702 290 7372 , Password: 2020
- Or, call in by dialing the following number: +1 346 248 7799, then dialing the Meeting ID (702 290 7372 ) followed by pressing the # key twice.

Zoom Gatherings: If you would like to schedule a Zoom meeting for your small group, faith formation class, or another gathering, please let one of the pastors know and we will get that set up!

Men’s Bible Study on Romans, Wednesday, July 29, 7 p.m., at John Unruh’s farm. All are welcome. Bring your own chair, bible, work book.

--Nate Ashley & John Unruh

Book Study: If you would like to join the discussion of the book, Trouble I’ve Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism, by Drew G.I. Hart, please contact Pastor Phil for more information. Next discussion will take place via Zoom on August 9 at 7:30 p.m. Beginning August 9 we plan to meet weekly, discussing 2-3 chapters a week.

Because No One Should Go Hungry: The purpose of the Tabor Church Food Pantry is to provide food at no cost for families in need in the Goessel area. If you are struggling during this time of pandemic, know that you are not alone. We are here to help! Please call to set up a time to get your food. 367-2318 - Tabor Church; 747-0408 - Kim Funk; 367-2747 - Janna Duerkson; 367-2437 - Laura Unruh. This is a ministry supported by the Goessel area churches and community.

Support our Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum with the benefit Bierock Carry-out Meal, Saturday, August 1, 11 am to 1 pm (while supplies last). The meal is a free-will donation or $10 suggested donation. New Year’s Cookies will also be available by the half dozen and dozen. Suggested donations: $5 and $10, respectively. Look for the arrows to direct traffic past the museum’s Prep School, 200 N. Poplar, Goessel. No reservation needed. Thank you for your support.

Conference Announcements

Western District Conference:

-- Living in Exile WDC Assembly Scriptures: Please read and pray over Jeremiah 29:4 and following and 1 Peter 2:11-12, our Assembly scriptures. Ponder what God might be telling us about how to live out the good news in times of trial, injustice, and fear. There will be chances to talk together during live webinars and during the 3:30 pm Zoom conversation with Danny Carroll R on August 1. https://mennowdc.org/2020-wdc-annual-assembly/

--WDC Assembly Video Snapshots: Have you gone to WDC Assembly 2020 on YouTube yet? There are some great stories about WDC churches and the ministries of our various commissions, stories of following Jesus today. You’ll learn things and be inspired. https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6aO7e884ZT5d9gHzyrfAucCCOFYYD_M5

--Looking forward to the Women and Girls Retreat at Camp Mennoncah? The Annual Spring Supper? Help make these events possible by joining the Western District Women in Mission Executive Council! There are nine open positions including: vice president, secretary, treasurer, one position on the Women and Girls Retreat Committee, two positions on the Communications Team, and three positions on the Nominating Committee. A wide variety of openings means we have a place for you and your unique talents and interests. You can help ensure the future of WDWM programming by volunteering for one of these positions. If you are interested in supporting the mission of WDWM by filling one of these roles, please email westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com.
Mennonite Church USA:

--Mennonite Church USA has put together a collection of laments, written by pastors, leaders, lay people and students, on the recent and persistent violence of racism. You are invited to pray and lament along with them: http://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/lament-violence-of-racism/

--Menno Snapshots: In “Reflections on protesting and faith,” two members of Pasadena Mennonite Church – a Guatemalan mestizo immigrant and a white university professor – discuss the cost of following Christ. Read more: http://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/reflections-protesting-and-faith/


--Join the growing culture of discipleship in the church! Save your spot in the next Missional Discipleship Initiative cohort. Visit MennoniteMission.net/MDI and sign up for the next MDI cycle, starting Sept.1!

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary: Webinar recording: “Exploring your call to ministry.” How do you discern a “call to ministry”? Check out this free webinar recording from AMBS that features a conversation between David B. Miller, D.Min.; Andy Brubacher Kaethler, Ph.D.; and Amanda (Beachy) Bleichty, M.Div. ambs.edu/academics

Mennonite Central Committee is hosting virtual alumni gatherings for four of the world regions where MCC works: Latin America and Caribbean, Asia, Europe & Middle East and Africa. And you are invited! Join us for this special time to hear updates from Area Directors about current programming, share stories of service experiences and engage in small group discussions to connect with your MCC friends or meet others who served in the same world region. Find out specific dates, times and register at mcc.org/virtual-alumni-gatherings. Questions? Please contact heidihuber@mcc.org or call 316.283.2720.

Mennonite Central Committee Flatlander Bicycle Ride: The planning committee is going ahead with plans for the 2020 Flatlander ride to be held on September 19. More information about this event can be found at: https://mcc.org/get-involved/events/mcc-flatlander-bicycle-ride.

Camp Mennoscah:

Camp in a Box from Camp Mennoscah--The vast majority of Camp in the Boxes and tee shirts have been distributed. If you have not received yours (and we have not been in touch), please contact Camp Mennoscah at office@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290. We’ll get it figured out!

The annual Camp Sing scheduled for August 8 has been cancelled. Staff will continue to brainstorm options for events that can be done safely!

Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp: Labor Day Work and Play Retreat is a weekend for families and individuals to volunteer at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. The weekend focuses on work projects, keeping the ministry of camp operating, while also offering a free day on Sunday to enjoy the beautiful mountain. The retreat is scheduled for September 4-7. Camp will make a decision two-weeks prior to the retreat using current information from state and local agencies to hold the retreat, cancel, or make necessary changes similar to the adjustments made on Memorial Day Work & Play Retreat. In the meantime, plan to join us. You can register online at rmmc.org or call camp at 719-687-9506.

Giving at Tabor

While we are not meeting in person, please continue with your faithful giving to the ministries of the church in the following ways:

1) Mail your offering to: Tabor Mennonite Church, 891 Chisholm Trail, Newton, Kansas 67114

2) Start an automatic deposit from your bank account. Contact the church for more information. 367-2318; kfunk@tabormennonite.org

3) Use the online bill pay option that your bank has in place. Contact your financial institution if you are not familiar with this process.

### Offering and Worship

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Faith Formation Zoom = approx. 47

### Giving Update through July 19 (34 Sundays)

Targeted giving: $185,810

Actual Giving: $160,319

Shortfall: $25,491


**Hymns for Worship**

**Spirit of the Living God**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**Breathe on me, breath of God**

Breathe on me, breath of God. Fill me with life new, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure, until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly thine, till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

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**Gratitude**

I am grateful for....

~ Sunday morning Zoom sessions and the opportunity to have deeper discussions on important topics.
~ I am grateful for conversations shared on the phone, through windows and in doorways.
~ local coffee shops and restaurants who provide curbside pickup and outdoor dining.

Please share what you are finding to be grateful for during this time of uncertainty and being apart. Email kfunk@tabormennonite.org or call 367-2318. If no answer, please leave a message.