

# Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXVI

December 19, 2021

No. 51



## Dare to Imagine God's Face

What amazing love is this that God comes down to us and takes on a human face? With Mary, we rejoice in God our Savior, for the Mighty One has done great things for us and holy is God's name!<sup>1</sup>

### WORSHIP

- PRELUDE Deloris Schmidt
- WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Reece Hiebert
- LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP AND RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL
- \*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 80*
- \*GATHERING PRAYER
- \*GATHERING HYMNS "O Come, All Ye Faithful" vs 1, 2, & 4 No. 241  
"Still, Still, Still" No. 264
- \*PASSING THE PEACE *The Peace of Christ be with you ~ and also with you.*
- LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE Larry and Dora Goerzen  
"Nun Ist Sie Erschienen" (English or German) No. 52 CS
- OFFERING OUR GIFTS "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" No. 216
- WORSHIP MUSIC "Angels We Have Heard on High"  
Isaac Swartzendruber and Russell Adrian
- CHILDREN'S STORY Janna Duerksen
- WORSHIP MUSIC "Mary Wrapped a Present to the World"  
Adult Worship Team
- SCRIPTURE READINGS *Micah 5:2-5a* Isaac and Kara Swartzendruber  
*Luke 1:39-55*  
*The Word of God for the people of God ~ Thanks be to God!*
- SERMON Pastor Katherine Goerzen
- HYMN OF RESPONSE "What Child Is This" vs. 1 & 3 No. 267

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING & PRAYER Pastor Luke Unruh

\*SENDING HYMN "Angels We Have Heard on High" vs. 1, 3, & 4 No. 249

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*\*Please stand if you are able*

## Sunday, December 19

Welcome to worship at Tabor Mennonite Church! Come together to worship God and experience God's love. This morning you were greeted by Jim and Ruby Graber. A special welcome is extended to all visitors.

**9:30 am:** Worship Service in the Sanctuary.  
YouTube Livestream (also available following the service).  
Link: [https://youtu.be/\\_XAQoNv\\_nBI](https://youtu.be/_XAQoNv_nBI)

**Fellowship Time** following worship.  
**Tabor Trading Post** in the Hospitality Hall. *See announcements.*

**10:45 am:** Faith Formation.

**5 - 8 pm:** Night in the Barn. *See announcement for details.*

### This Week

**Wed. Dec. 15 - Mon. Dec. 20** - Tabor serves at New Hope Shelter.

**Tues. Dec. 21, 9 am** - Staff Meeting.

**Wed. Dec. 22, 6:30 pm** - TMYF Christmas Party at Brandon & Kristi Unruh's farm.

**Fri. Dec. 24, 7 pm** - Christmas Eve Celebration Service 

### Next Sunday, December 26

**10:00 am:** Next Sunday is the Sunday after Christmas. The theme is Lessons and Carols. This will be a service of Scripture and singing.

*Faith Formation will not meet.*



<sup>1</sup>Adapted from the *Leader* magazine Advent Worship Resources "Dare to Imagine," Advent 4 Focus Statement

## Prayer Requests

*The following prayer requests were shared on Sunday, December 12.*

- ★ Pastor Katherine requested prayers for Bethesda's residents and staff as they once again enter into lock-down following another Covid case. Lord, hear our prayers for health, for strength for nursing and administrative staff as they care for residents, and for the emotional well-being of all who are quarantining in their rooms.

Remember to Pray for:

- ★ the family of Mary Jane Janzen, who passed away on Tuesday afternoon. Lord, hear our prayers for her family and friends. There will be a private burial on Monday, with a memorial service taking place in the new year.
- ★ the many people who have experienced devastation and loss of life from recent tornadoes and bad weather. Lord, hear our prayers.
- ★ Western District Conference: Give thanks for WDC congregations as a visible expression of God's presence in local communities, now in this Christmas season and throughout the year.
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: Matthew and Toni Krabill, of MMN, are serving as co-directors for the Paris Mennonite Center in France. Pray for their health, creativity and joy, as they welcome researchers, share Anabaptist resources and develop online classes for French-speaking theology students throughout the world.
- ★ Mennonite Church USA: "The angel said to them, 'You have nothing to fear! I come to proclaim good news to you – news of a great joy to be shared by the whole people.'" (Luke 2:10) Mennonite Church USA Executive Board and staff hope that you and yours are blessed by the good news and transforming power of Christ this Christmas.

Remember to Praise God for:

- ★ the Goessel students and staff that collected more than 1,000 items for the Tabor Food Pantry! Thanks be to God for a community that supports our students and the great bunch of students we have in our schools! Donations were also received through the food drive that the Citizen's State Bank sponsored this Christmas, as well as many donations made by groups and individuals throughout the year. Thanks be to God for a caring community!
- ★ the birth of Jesus, God's gift to the world!

## Congregational Announcements

**The Holiday Tabor Trading Post** will take place on Sunday morning, December 19 in the Hospitality Hall following the worship service. If you have arts, crafts, or home made goods, and you would like to be part of this year's Trading Post – contact Ruby Graber at 620-951-0081 or [rubygraber@gmail.com](mailto:rubygraber@gmail.com) as soon as possible. Ruby and Jim Graber will organize the event with the assistance of Carol Duerksen. This year the revenue received will go to our current Faith Formation Offering Projects: Mennonite Central Committee Brood of Chicks for the Junior Dept. offering and Sewing Machines for the adult offering.

**Meals for New Hope Shelter:** We need to increase our pool of volunteers to provide food for the homeless shelter. Contact Shelley Buller if you can help. No training by the shelter is necessary and you are not required to serve in person.

**The Deacon Team continues to be in prayer** as we search for another member to replace Duane Duerksen. If you are interested in learning more about the position or have someone to suggest, please contact one of the deacons.

**Night in the Barn:** Everyone is invited to attend Night in the Barn, December 18 & 19, 5-8pm at Patchwork Farms, 371 70th, Newton (6 miles north of Newton on Hwy K-15, then 3/4 mile east). This is a walking outdoor activity with plenty of room to social distance. Be part of this living nativity with characters and animals, Christmas carols, lights, drinks and snacks. Suggested donation of \$5 per person.

**Come Home to the Museum Store for Christmas:** Mennonite Heritage and Agricultural Museum, 200 N. Poplar, Goessel. Open Tues - Sat. 12-4pm until Dec 22. Mennonite cookbooks, locally crafted items, gift memberships to the museum, gift certificates.

**Do you enjoy a cup of coffee?** A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board if you would be willing to help make coffee on Sunday mornings. Volunteering to clean up after Faith Formation is also very much appreciated.

**Fiscal Year End:** Now is the time to prepare annual reports for the 2021 fiscal year which ended November 30. Reports are due in December. Thanks you for submitting reports in a timely manner.

## Conference Announcements

### Western District Conference:

--Immerse yourself into the Christmas message with music and song Sunday December 19 at 4pm, Hope Mennonite church, 868 N Maize Road, Wichita. Hopeful Blues is honored to host Doxology Ensemble, a 12-voice male ensemble from the Anabaptist community near Hutchinson. Jointly, they will present a concert of sacred music, joining two unique ensembles for an afternoon of Christmas music. Admission is free, donations are welcomed.

--**WDC Music Library**- Are you or your church choir in need of sheet music? Thanks to our wonderful volunteer, Marcene Entz, our WDC Music Library is now up to date and posted on our website. Click the link to check out our music library page and download the updated music list of what is available for check out in our music library.

<https://mennowdc.org/library/music-library/>

### Mennonite Central Committee:

--**The MCC Comforter Blitz Committee** is looking for additional committee members! Would you be interested in assisting the making of comforters for MCC, and helping to plan the annual three-day comforter making event in Yoder, Kansas? If so, we would love your skills and your voice! If interested, please reach out to Committee Chair, Kara Klingenberg at [k.klingenberg@hotmail.com](mailto:k.klingenberg@hotmail.com) or call her at 620-983-9003 for more information. We are currently looking for a treasurer, advertising help, and anyone else who is interested in helping.

### Mennonite Disaster Service:

--**The December edition of *On the Level*** is now available from MDS. In our current issue: MDS responds to the deadly tornadoes in the Midwest and parts of the South, MDS Canada needs volunteers to help survivors recover from extensive flooding in British Columbia, and you can learn more about our Annual Celebration in Sarasota, Florida in January. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3GORUmS>

--**Save the Date:** The Kansas MDS Unit invites you to attend the annual meeting on Sunday, January 16, 2 pm at Tabor Mennonite Church. No need to register. We will be sharing and celebrating about the work of MDS and we will be voting on some Unit Bylaw revisions. For a copy of the Bylaw revisions contact Cleo Koop at [cleohkoop@gmail.com](mailto:cleohkoop@gmail.com). This will be a hybrid event, in person as well as virtual on Zoom. More information coming.

### Camp Mennoscah:

--**2022 Summer staff applications are being accepted!** Applicants should be 18 years old or older and in agreement with the Camp Mennoscah mission statement. See website for details. Call or email with questions! [Information and the online application can be found here!](#)

--**Christmas Gathering on Dec. 18 at 2:30pm!** Join us in the Dining Hall at Camp Mennoscah for afternoon fun--bring games to play indoors or out. Camp will provide popcorn and generic pop. (Masks recommended and encouraged for inside activities.)

--**Camp Mennoscah Merch!** From CamelBaks to tee shirts and stickers, you can find your Camp Mennoscah merchandise at <https://camp-mennoscah-store.square.site/s/shop> Share a bit of summer with friends and family this Christmas!

### Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp:

--**Snow Camps:** Jr. High (Jan. 21-23) and Sr. High (Feb. 18-20) at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp are returning in 2022! – The time has come to enjoy the beauty and chill of RMMC in the winter once again. Come play in the snow and on the ice and then be ready to come inside for good food, fellowship and worship together. For Jr. High, Sarah Neher (Rainbow Mennonite Church pastor) will be sharing on the theme “Filling Your Toolbox” of spiritual practices. For Sr. High, Renee Reimer (Bethel College Mennonite Church pastor) will be sharing about the lessons from Parables. Visit the camp web page ([www.rmmc.org](http://www.rmmc.org)) for additional details and to sign-up that you’re headed to the Colorado Rockies to start the new year!

--**Scrapbook Retreat,** at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp on Jan. 28-30 is your opportunity to create paper or digital photo books and share ideas and good conversation with other scrapbook participants. With safety protocols of mask wearing and individual tables for participants, please come for retreat and community in God’s creation here at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp. Register online ([www.rmmc.org](http://www.rmmc.org)) and save a space to join in.

## DECEMBER COVID-19 PROTOCOL

- During this holiday time we ask that you are still vigilant about wearing masks and using hand sanitizer.
  - Every other Pew in the Sanctuary is roped off for Social Distance Seating.
  - Social Distance seating on dots during children's story time will continue.
  - During worship service the people speaking from the front microphones are encouraged to remove your mask to accommodate those who have difficulty understanding the speakers.
  - Please use the microphone at the front of the sanctuary for Announcements and Sharing. During Sharing if you feel more comfortable for a pastor to bring you a mic while in the pew, we ask you to keep your mask on while sharing.
  - Musicians are still encouraged to perform from the stage to minimize the transmission of respiratory droplets.
  - Congregational Singing has resumed.
  - Passing Offering Bags will continue so please carry sanitizer with you and use after passing the offering bags.
- PLEASE KEEP HANDSHAKING TO A MINIMUM WITH GREETERS AND DURING THE SERVICE.**
- If you test positive after attending a church event, **PLEASE** call one of the Covid Task Team or notify the church office.
  - Sanitizing stations will remain available and encouraged to be used.
  - Mailboxes are in use.
  - If you are gathering for meals in the Hospitality Hall please wear masks and gloves and serve each person, versus potluck style or allowing individuals to touch dishes and utensils.

Thank You, The Covid Task Team – Gayle Funk, Duane Duerksen, Erica Stoltzfus

### OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE December 12, 2021

Offering	= \$ 3,996.37	Attendance	=	110
Adult FF	= \$ 13.00	Attendance	=	30
Jr. FF	= \$ 14.60	Attendance	=	29

Worship Link Views = 22

## Christmas At Tabor

### Advent Worship Services

“Dare to Imagine”

Advent candle lighting. Advent and Christmas songs.  
Scripture passages read by children and parents.  
Sanctuary beautifully decorated by our gifted Visual Arts Team.

### Night in the Barn

December 18 and 19, 5-8 pm.

At Patchwork Farms.

Experience this meaningful retelling of the Christmas Story!

### Holiday Trading Post

December 19 in the Hospitality Hall following worship.

### Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 7 pm.

Christmas story from Matthew and Luke.

Christmas carols and candle lighting.

### The Sunday after Christmas

December 26, 10 am.

“Lessons and Carols”

Scripture readings from Isaiah and the Gospels.

Christmas music. Faith Formation will not meet.

*See newsletter and announcements for details on all of the above.*



Tabor Mennonite Church

891 Chisholm Trail, Newton, KS 67114

Phone: 620-367-2318

email: [tabor@tabormennonite.org](mailto:tabor@tabormennonite.org)

Website: [www.tabormennonite.org](http://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

Cell: 316-727-4986

email: [kgoerzen@tabormennonite.org](mailto:kgoerzen@tabormennonite.org)

Supply Pastor:

Luke Unruh

Cell: 620-386-4596

email: [lunruh@tabormennonite.org](mailto:lunruh@tabormennonite.org)

Deacons:

Carol Duerksen

Ruby Graber

Emil Schmidt

Duane Duerksen

Denise Nickel

Lewis Unruh

Pastor Search Committee:

Reece Hiebert, co chr.

Nancy Funk, sec.

Larry Goerzen

Eunice Nickel, co chr.

Lewis Unruh, deacon rep.

Sheri Schmidt

Pastor Katherine Goerzen