

# Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXVII

February 27, 2022

No. 9



## FROM SECURITY TO GENEROSITY

As we seek God's ways, we move from prioritizing our personal security to living with generosity toward our neighbors.

*Question to Ponder: What are you holding on to tightly that can now be released, freeing you to be generous?*<sup>1</sup>

### WORSHIP

- PRELUDE Russell Adrian
- WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Ruby Graber
- LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP AND RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL
- \*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 91*
- \*GATHERING HYMNS "And I Will Raise You Up" No. 641  
"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues" -vs.1-4 No 764
- \*GATHERING PRAYER
- \*PASSING THE PEACE *The Peace of Christ be with you ~ and also with you.*
- WORSHIP MUSIC Men's Ensemble
- CHILDREN'S STORY Carol Duerksen and Doris Unruh
- SCRIPTURE READING *Luke 4:1-13* Donavon Schmidt  
*The Word of God for the people of God ~ Thanks be to God!*
- SERMON Pastor Katherine Goerzen
- \*HYMN OF RESPONSE "Jesus, Tempted in the Desert" No. 36 SS
- SCRIPTURE READING *Deuteronomy 26:1-11* Pastor Katherine Goerzen
- OFFERING OUR FIRST FRUITS
- CONGREGATIONAL SHARING & PRAYER Pastor Luke Unruh
- \*SENDING HYMN "The Lord Lift You Up" No. 832
- \*SENDING PRAYER
- \*SENDING BLESSING
- \*POSTLUDE *\*Please stand if you are able*

<sup>1</sup>Focus Statement for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent from the 2022 Lenten/Easter Worship Resources in the *Leader* magazine.

## Sunday, February 27

Welcome to worship at Tabor Mennonite Church! Come together to worship God and experience God's love. A special welcome is extended to all visitors.

### 9:30 am: Worship

YouTube Livestream (also available following the service).

Link: [https://youtu.be/rEwZOy8IG\\_I](https://youtu.be/rEwZOy8IG_I)

**There will be a brief congregational meeting following the worship service to affirm Kristi Unruh as deacon.**

### 10:45 am: Faith Formation

Option for Adults: Webinar - Justice in the U.S. Criminal Legal System Resolution, in the sanctuary.

### This Week

**Sun, Feb 27 - Tues, March 1** - Tabor serves at New Hope Shelter.

**Mon, Feb. 28, 5:30 pm** - Faithful Fitness.  
**7 pm** - Men's Bible Study.

**Tues, March 1, 9 am** - Staff meeting.  
**7 pm** - Church Council meeting.

**Wed, March 2, 5:45 pm** - Wednesday Evening supper & programs.  
Webinar - Justice in the U.S. Criminal Legal System Resolution, in the Conference Room.  
**≈6:20 pm** - Ash Wednesday Service.

### Next Sunday, March 6

**9:30 am:** Next Sunday Cleo Koop and Pastor Luke will share about their MDS trip to McAllen, TX.

### 10:45 am: Faith Formation.

Option for Adults: Webinar - Membership Guidelines Resolution, in the sanctuary.

### Prayer Requests

*The following requests were shared on Sunday, February 20.*

- ★ Sharleen Francis requests continued prayers for her mother, Diane, following a fall that broke her left knee and both of her nasal bones. She is bruised and hurting, and yet remains in good spirits. Lord, hear our prayers for strength, healing, and comfort.

- ★ Rosie Jantz thanked our congregation for the outpouring of love following the death of her husband, Kent. Lord, hear our prayers that your love -- which is sometimes made known through your people -- will continue to surround her in this difficult journey.
- ★ Sheri Schmidt shared an update from the Pastoral Search Committee (this update can be read in its entirety in the March Newsletter). Lord, hear our prayers for clarity and wisdom as we seek your calling and your will for our congregation.

#### Remember to Pray for:

- ★ all who are experiencing illness, anticipating or recovering from surgery, continuing with medical treatments, and all who are grieving losses or experiencing emotional trauma. Lord, hear our prayers.
- ★ our Pastoral Search Team as they begin the process of discerning possible candidates for the pastor position. Lord, hear our prayers for listening ears, wisdom, and clarity.
- ★ the Caring Quilt is with Diane Loewen following a fall. Lord, hear our prayers for healing.
- ★ Mennonite Central Committee: Please continue to pray for peace and safety in Ukraine. MCC is evaluating the situation and giving support to staff and partners as the situation allows. All international MCC staff have been evacuated from Ukraine including two SALT participants from Kansas. Aaron Ensz from Buhler has returned to the U.S. and Micah Epp from North Newton has relocated outside of Ukraine. Please keep them and their families in your prayers as well.
- ★ Western District Conference: Pray for the WDC Church Planting Commission, as they implement a new strategic plan to engage our whole conference in initiatives for church planting, revitalizing congregations, and fostering relationships with emerging Anabaptist / Mennonite groups.
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: MMN, with more than a dozen partners, realized a long-held dream in 2021 — to make Anabaptist theological resources available in the French language. Praise God for the launch of this program with free monthly online webinars offered by *le Centre de Formation à la Justice et à la Paix* (Justice and Peace Training Center), and pray for its continued development.

#### Remember to Praise God for:

- ★ the apparent decrease in Covid cases. Praise also for those who continue to care for our loved ones in nursing homes as well as all those in the medical field who offer their skills and compassion to those whom they serve. Thanks be to God!

## Congregational Announcements

**Chapel at Bethesda:** Bethesda will once again be offering chapel services. Tabor's first chapel at Bethesda will be on Sunday, March 13 at 4pm. If you are interested in helping provide music or input with this or any future chapel service, please speak with Pastor Katherine. Thanks!

**Tabor Church Wellness:** The 2022 wellness challenge will begin this Monday, February 28, and includes Bible reading and fitness challenges for this year's goals! You can pick up a flier with details and a tracking sheet from the wellness mailbox or print the attached flier from this week's bulletin email. Contact Kevin Nickel with any questions. Good luck!

**Tabor's Congregational Information Form (CIF)** and job description have been sent to WDC and Tabor's co-pastor position is now posted on both the WDC and MCUSA websites! If you would like to read through the CIF, a printed copy is in the library. If you prefer reading it digitally, you can request an electronic copy from the church office. Please keep the Pastoral Search Committee in your prayers as they move to the next phase of the process and start receiving and reading through candidate Ministerial Leadership Information (MLI) forms.

**Delegates for MC USA Special Assembly:** If you are interested in serving as one of Tabor's Delegates for the in-person MCUSA Special Delegate Session in Kansas City, May 27-30, please let a pastor know. The deacons will pay part of the registration fee for all Tabor delegates. Delegates should listen to the webinars on the resolutions and attend table talk sessions this spring. If you have questions, contact one of the pastors or deacons.

If you are planning to be a part of the table talk discussions to help delegates discern how to vote for the 4 MCUSA resolutions at the assembly in May, please participate in the book study or read the book *Oriented to Faith* AND/OR watch the 4 MCUSA webinars on each of the resolutions. For more information on the resolutions, and to access the webinars, see website:

<https://www.mennoniteusa.org/special-delegate-session-22/>.

**Tabor Mennonite Women** will have a comforter tying event in the Hospitality Hall on Saturday, March 12, 1-5 pm. Come to tie comforters for MCC relief. TMW will also be collecting sewing kits for MCC supported programs that teach sewing or tailoring and provides the tools to make and mend clothing or to begin a business. You will find a list of items on cards below the mailboxes in the foyer. You may also bring snacks to share throughout the afternoon.

**New Hope Shelter:** Brian Bisbee from New Hope Shelter will share about the **ministry of New Hope during the faith formation hour on March 13** (postponed from February 6). All Junior Youth, High School Youth and Adults are welcome to attend.

**Where have all the Pastors Gone?** - March 25 - 26, Hesston Mennonite Church and online. A Weekend College event presented by Hesston's Center for Anabaptist Leadership and Learning (CALL) program, the seminar will explore strategies to encourage discernment and development of calls to leadership within our congregations. Discuss barriers to the pastoral call and work at strategies to remove those barriers. Explore ways the church can change to make the pastor role more attractive. Online and in-person options available. Learn more and register at [hesston.edu/weekendcollege](https://hesston.edu/weekendcollege). To receive a group discount, please contact the Tabor Church office if you plan to attend this event.

**Rejoice!** The Spring issue of *Rejoice!* is available on the table in the foyer. This devotional is provided by Tabor's Christian Education Committee for anyone who would like to have a copy.

**Tabor Church 2022 Directory:** Please submit address and committee updates for the directory to the church office by the end of February. Email: [kfunk@tabormennonite.org](mailto:kfunk@tabormennonite.org) or call 620-367-2318

### Conference Announcements

**Mennonite Church USA:** Mennonite Education Agency has released its free Lent at Home 2022 worship guide and calendar for download. The annual guide provides options for individuals and households to follow daily or weekly rituals, which include guided Scripture readings, prayers and special activities for the Lenten season. Download it here: [mennoniteusa.org/lentathome](https://mennoniteusa.org/lentathome).

**Western District Conference invites pastors, congregational leaders and delegates for the upcoming Special Session of Mennonite Church USA Assembly to a Zoom forum:** The WDC Executive Board will host a zoom gathering on Thursday, March 10 at 7-8:30 pm for congregational delegates, pastors, and other congregational leaders, to share information and conversation to help prepare for the upcoming Special Session of Mennonite Church USA Assembly in May. Glen Guyton, Executive Director of MC USA, will be present to engage with questions from participants, and Spanish/English interpretation will be provided. Register for the zoom forum by March 8 by completing this online registration form at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSesxcq5d9-o\\_xG65j-2d97ShewcHielQ9jD6fmLjmg07RJELw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSesxcq5d9-o_xG65j-2d97ShewcHielQ9jD6fmLjmg07RJELw/viewform?usp=sf_link) or contact WDC at [wdc@mennowdc.org](mailto:wdc@mennowdc.org) or 316-283-6300. The Zoom link for the gathering will be sent in advance.

### Mennonite Central Committee:

**--Impact 2022:** Do you care about helping MCC make an impact in the U.S. and around the world? If so, we want to listen to you. Your input can help fulfill MCC's desire to find the best ways of responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. Share your ideas in this short survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MCCImpact2022-Media>. Thank you!

**--14th annual MCC Comforter Blitz:** All are welcome to join the fun on March 7, 8 and 9 at the Journey Yoder Campus, one mile north of Yoder. Times are Monday and Tuesday 9-5, and Wednesday 9-4. Come and have a good time while helping others. No sewing skills required. Lunch is available by donation each day, or you may bring your own sack lunch. You can bring snacks to share during work day. Masks are highly encouraged and plan to practice social distancing. This event is hosted by Kansas Friends of MCC, to make good quality, beautiful comforters for MCC to send for warmth, comfort, and love all around the world. Please contact the MCC Central States office with questions at 316-283-2720, or check the Comforter Blitz Facebook Page, "MCC Comforter Blitz for Kansas".

**Mennonite Disaster Service:** The February edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Meet two sisters who carry on the family tradition of MDS service, learn how Mennonites and Catholics are working together to reunite a family, check out MDS employment opportunities to join our team, and relive the excitement and memorable stories from the MDS Annual Celebration in Sarasota last month. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3s2ViGd>

### Camp Mennoscah:

**--Summer Youth Camp Registration Open!** We will build on the Rock! Register online.

**--Cooks needed for Summer Youth Camps!** Cooks need only willing hands. Contact Camp Mennoscah for available weeks.

**--Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat March 18-20!** There is only one retreat in spring and only one in fall. Cropping and crafting will happen in the Dining Hall and lodging will be in the Retreat Center.

Camp Mennoscah Contact Information:

Phone: 620-297-3290

Website: [www.campmennoscah.org](http://www.campmennoscah.org)

Email: [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) or [office@campmennoscah.org](mailto:office@campmennoscah.org)

**Record your family's births, marriages and deaths for free**, using Mennonite Church USA Archives' vital records form on the Archives home page here: [mennoniteusa.org/historical-archives/](https://mennoniteusa.org/historical-archives/)

**Hesston College:** Spring musical, *James and the Giant Peach* - March 2-6, Black Box Theater, Keim Center. The musical, based on Roald Dahl's 1961 children's book, traces the life of the orphan, James Trotter. When he leaves the orphanage to live with his two horrible aunts, he soon discovers a peach growing outside their home and ventures inside of it to befriend five insects. Through a series of odd adventures, James gains an unexpected, unconventional understanding of what it means to be a family. Info and tickets at [hesston.edu/theatre](http://hesston.edu/theatre).

**Everence®** will hold an informative Medicare webinar on Tuesday, March 8, starting at 6:30 p.m. Topics will include, when and where to sign up for Medicare, what Medicare does (and doesn't) cover, Medicare Parts A, B, C and D in clear, understandable language plus budgeting for health care costs in retirement. There will also be time for your questions. Information will be presented by staff from the Everence offices in Central Kansas. To register contact Everence at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or [central.kansas@everence.com](mailto:central.kansas@everence.com). Attendance recommended for those approaching retirement or those ready to sign up for Medicare.

**COVID Protocol:** Please see the posted COVID guidelines that are currently in place and follow as suggested. Hand sanitizer and masks are available for use.

OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE February 20, 2022			
Offering	= \$ 2,615.00	Attendance	= 110
Adult FF	= \$ 23.50	Attendance	= 31
Jr. FF	= \$ 6.00	Attendance	= 29
Worship Link Views		=	36

## Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale April 8 & 9 at the KS State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson

-- CHILDREN'S COIN OFFERING was an AMAZING \$138.05!!

--THANKS to ALL of you who have put checks in our box for Pre-Sale Expenses. We would like to get more folks involved with this part of the MCC Sale. Our wish is to replace the many pre-sale supporters who have passed away. No check is too small.

--Start plants from seed to sell at the very popular Plants and Things Booth that Brandon and Kristi Unruh operate and that many of you volunteer at. Watching plants and seeds grow is a FUN wintertime activity for you and your children. It also teaches little things DO make a difference.

--Here are some AMAZING FACTS about what MCC has done around the World in 2021:

- \*18,638 people gained an improved water source
- \*161,046 people received emergency food assistance
- \*21,792 relief kits helped families facing conflict or disaster
- \*45,787 comforters were sent to nine countries
- \*550,440 lbs. of canned meat provided protein and nutrients to hungry people
- \*55,986 children and youth received educational supplies
- \*121,613 people benefited from health information sessions

THESE ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE THINGS THAT MCC HAS DONE WITH THE MONEY THAT MCC SALES IN THE USA AND CANADA HAVE RAISED!!!! These are AMAZING figures!! IF you get depressed about the bad news in the world; look at the GOOD things that MCC does that actually change peoples lives for the better and get involved ANY way you can. It is NOT the size of your gift; it IS that you make the gift of YOUR time, YOUR money, YOUR thoughts and prayers,

--website: [kansas.mccsale.org](http://kansas.mccsale.org) Check it out. Also on Facebook.



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: <a href="mailto:kgoerzen@tabormennonite.org">kgoerzen@tabormennonite.org</a>	Supply Pastor: Luke Unruh Cell: 620-386-4596 email: <a href="mailto:lunruh@tabormennonite.org">lunruh@tabormennonite.org</a>
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Deacons:		
Carol Duerksen Ruby Graber	Denise Nickel Emil Schmidt	Kristi Unruh (to be affirmed) Lewis Unruh

Pastor Search Committee:		
Reece Hiebert, co chr. Eunice Nickel, co chr.	Nancy Funk, sec. Lewis Unruh, deacon rep. Pastor Katherine Goerzen	Larry Goerzen Sheri Schmidt