

Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXVII

April 3, 2022

No. 14



Seeking God's Ways:
From Scarcity to Abundance

This Sunday is Pastor Luke's final Sunday as Interim Supply Pastor. We are grateful for the many ways that he has abundantly shared his gifts with our congregation through this past year and for the ways that God has been at work in his life. Thanks be to God!

WORSHIP

PRELUDE "From the Southland" -Burleigh Pastor Katherine Goerzen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Nathan Ashley

LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP AND RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL

*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 126*

*GATHERING HYMN "Come, We That Love" No. 31

*GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN OF ASSURANCE "Beyond a Dying Sun" No. 416

*PASSING THE PEACE *The Peace of Christ be with you ~ and also with you.*

WORSHIP MUSIC "Come Away from Rush and Hurry" Sisters Forever
"God, Be the Love"

CHILDREN'S STORY Carol Duerksen and Doris Unruh

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

SCRIPTURE READING *John 12:1-8* Dale Alderfer
The Word of God for the people of God ~ Thanks be to God!

SERMON Pastor Luke Unruh

HYMN OF RESPONSE "Here I Am, Lord" No. 545

SCRIPTURE READING *Philippians 3:4b-14* Pastor Luke Unruh

ANOINTING and BLESSING

LITANY OF RELEASE FOR PASTOR LUKE UNRUH

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING & PRAYER Pastor Katherine Goerzen

*SENDING HYMN "Praise God" No. 70

*SENDING PRAYER and BLESSING Pastor Luke Unruh

*POSTLUDE **Please stand if you are able*

Litany of Release and Blessing for Luke Unruh, Interim Supply Pastor-Congregation

Congregational Leader: Today we give thanks for the ministry of Luke Unruh and bless him as he concludes his role as Interim Supply Pastor at Tabor Mennonite Church. We give thanks for God's faithfulness during his time of ministry with us.

Pastor Luke: It has been a privilege to serve Tabor Mennonite Church as your Interim Pastor. We have shared worship and work, fun and fellowship, joy and sorrow, celebration and struggle. I give thanks for ways God has worked among us, and the opportunities we have had to grow in faith together.

Congregational Leader: Luke, God has blessed us richly through your ministry. We give thanks for your faithfulness and acknowledge this transition in the life of our congregation. We now release you from your pastoral responsibilities and relationships among us, and bless you as you move on in your life journey.

Pastor Luke: With God's help, I also release the congregation from your relationship with me as Interim Pastor. When I meet congregation members in the future, it will not be as your pastor, but as a neighbor. I pray that all of us will be filled with the knowledge of God's will through the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that we may live lives worthy of Christ and pleasing to God in every way, bearing fruit in every good work.

Congregation:
May God bless you and keep you.
May the very face of God shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God's presence embrace you and give you peace.
Amen.

Sunday, April 3

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).

<https://youtu.be/EC6lOnUrO6M>

A Note about this Morning's Prelude/Offertory/Postlude: This is the only work for solo piano by the African-American composer Henry T. Burleigh (1866-1949). As a composer, he is most well-known for his celebrated arrangements of spirituals for voice and piano. You can hear snippets of melodies from "Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen" and "My Lord, What a Morning" in this work.

10:45 am: Faith Formation.

Farewell to Luke: In the foyer is a card which you are invited to sign along with a short message of gratitude.

11:45 am: Potluck meal to celebrate Luke's time with us as Supply Pastor, and to say farewell and affirm his calling at First Mennonite.

This Week

Mon, April 4, 5:30 pm - Faithful Fitness. **6:30 pm** - Pastor Search.

Tues, April 5, 9 am - Staff outing for Pastor Luke's last day.
7 pm - Church Council.

Wed, April 6, 6:30 pm - Weigh-in for pine cars.
7:00 pm - Pine Car Derby. **7:30 pm** - Adult Choir.

Fri, April 8 - Sat, April 9 - Kansas MCC Relief Sale.

Next Sunday, April 10

9:30 am: Next Sunday is Palm Sunday. The theme is Seeking God's Ways and the topic is "From Power Over to Power With". We will hear stories about ways that people came together for the sake of serving others in the name of Christ at the MCC Relief Sale. Scriptures for reflection will be Luke 22:14-23:56; Philippians 2:5-11; Isaiah 50:4-9; and Psalm 31:9-16.

10:45 am: Faith Formation. Adults: "The Bible and Sexuality" led by Peter Goerzen in the Hospitality Hall.

Prayer Requests

The following requests were shared on Sunday, March 27.

- ★ Denise shared a few updates on Bethesda Home. Lord, hear our prayer for the continued work of Bethesda, as they are in need of both physical help and monetary donations.
- ★ Pastor Luke shared that Rachel and Joseph Givens are currently in France as they prepare for their term of service with Mennonite Mission Network. Lord, hear our prayers.

Remember to Pray for:

- ★ our Pastor Search Team as they continue their work. Lord, hear our prayers.
- ★ Western District Conference: Pray for WDC's Israel-Palestine Relations Task Force, as they host a zoom conversation this week with Jonathan Kuttub, and seek to raise awareness and deepen understanding of pathways toward justice and peace.

Remember to Praise God for:

- ★ this past year as we were blessed to have Pastor Luke serve as Supply Pastor here at Tabor. Thanks be to God for his ministry and leadership. We pray for Luke as he will pastor at First Mennonite in Newton and continue with his studies through AMBS. Lord, hear our prayers.

Congregational Announcements

Share an Easter Lily to honor loved ones at the Easter service on April 17. Names of those to be honored, along with names of those sharing the lilies, need to be turned in to the church office by Tuesday, April 12 to be listed in the bulletin. Please deliver lilies to the church, labeled with the names of donors, by noon on Saturday, April 16. Please note that lilies need to be taken home after Easter services or they will be used in church decorations and/or delivered to Bethesda for residents to enjoy.

Men's Bible Study will not meet on April 4. They will resume on Monday, April 11 introducing a study of 1 Corinthians.

The annual Pine Car Race will be held on April 6 at 7 pm in the Hospitality Hall. Cars need to be at the church by 6:30 pm for the official weigh-in and judging. Prizes will be awarded for speed and the most creative. This race wraps up the Wednesday evening programming for the children through 8th grade. Refreshments will be served after the race. See you there!

Tabor Mennonite Women are invited to a Mystery Supper on Monday, April 11. Plan to meet at the church at 5:30 pm. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. We will carpool to our destination. Cost is \$10.95, payable to the venue that evening.

Preparing for MC USA Special Assembly:

--**The Bible & Sexuality:** Faith Formation on April 10 with Peter Goerzen leading.

--**Table talk discussions:** Faith Formation on April 24 to help delegates discern how to vote for the 4 MCUSA resolutions at the assembly in May.

--For more **information on the resolutions**, and to access the webinars: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/special-delegate-session-22/>.

--**One more delegate position needs to be filled for Tabor.** If you are interested in being a delegate, contact one of the pastors or deacons.

Calling all dishwashers: A list of those who are trained to use the dishwasher is being compiled. Please contact the church office to have your name on the list.

Cottonwood Complex Fire: The Kansas Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) has been responding to the Cottonwood Complex Fire in Reno County Kansas. We have completed 17 jobs of clearing debris from homes that were a total loss in the fire and have 5 more sites we are working on. We will be concluding the clean up phase of the disaster response soon. Thanks to all of the volunteers who responded with equipment and labor in this project. ~Cleo Koop, Kansas MDS Chair person.

Bloodmobile: The need for blood products continues. Please sign up to donate on April 11, between 1:00-6:00 pm at the Goessel Church. Make a single unit donation or a Power Red donation (double units for those with type O+, O-, A-, or B-) to help meet the needs. Sign up for your appointment time online at redcrossblood.org. For more information contact Rosie Reimer 620-367-2418 or Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081. Thanks for making a difference!

Upcoming:

April 11: Tabor Mennonite Women Mystery Supper

April 14: Maundy Thursday Meal and Service

April 15: Good Friday Service at Bethesda

April 16: Easter Egg hunt at Bethesda

April 17: Easter Sunday

April 24, 11:30 am: Camp 412 fundraiser meal at Goessel High.

May 7: Spring Work Day

May 27-30: Junior High Camp 412

June 6-10: Vacation Bible School

Conference Announcements

Western District Conference: How Can We Help? On April 21, 7 pm the WDC Immigration Task Force invites you to learn the latest on how to support new migrants and refugees near you and learn about how to join the mission of two organizations who have been working at refugee resettlement and immigration justice for many years. We will be glad to network briefly with each other about our congregation's work in this area. Guest speakers will be Charity Stowell (MCC Newcomer Connections Coordinator) and Jen Rafter (International Rescue Committee Development Coordinator). To receive the Zoom link, please register by emailing wdc@mennowdc.org by April 20.

Mennonite Central Committee:

--**Join the MCC Thrifty 50 Challenge!** 50 years ago the first MCC thrift shop opened and now there are 85 shops that provide millions of dollars each year for MCC's work at home and around the world. To celebrate, we're inviting you to sign up for the Thrifty 50 Challenge to get one practical challenge sent to your inbox and have a chance to win a \$25 MCC Thrift gift card every week. Visit thrift.mcc.org to find a shop near you and learn more about MCC Thrift!

--**MCC response in Ukraine:** MCC continues to be in communication with our program partners. Currently, partners are responding in some regions as they are able with supplies they can secure. MCC will continue to determine how it can support short-term needs. However, MCC's strength continues to be mid and long-term disaster response and we are working to formulate these plans for Ukraine. MCC has been working in Ukraine for 100 years and we will continue to serve in Ukraine long after the crisis disappears from the news cycle. Donate today to support these efforts at mcc.org/ukraine

Camp Mennoscah:

--April 23 is a Work and Play Day at Camp Mennoscah! Details are forthcoming for projects. We'd like to complete the amphitheater project. A crew with trucks and dirt haulers/diggers is needed! Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 to register or for more information.

--Kitchen helpers needed for Summer Youth Camps! Your time and skill give campers a week of growing in Christian fellowship and experiencing God's great creation. Cooks need only willing hands and the ability to follow directions. Kitchen staff is needed for July 3-9 and July 17-23. Contact us at 620-297-3290 or olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org.

Bethel College: Sun, April 3, 3 pm – Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum, John M. Janzen, "Drums or Organ: Contesting Musical Styles in African Christianity," , Kauffman Museum auditorium. This program is associated with the current special exhibit marking 125 years of Kauffman Museum. Due to the impracticality of social distancing, face coverings will be required indoors regardless of vaccination status.

Everence® will hold an informative Social Security and retirement income webinar on Tuesday, April 12, starting at 6:30 p.m. Specifics will include, Social Security strategies, including when to begin taking benefits, risks that can impact your retirement savings plus strategies to help your income last throughout retirement. There will also be plenty of time for 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

NOTES

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale

April 8 & 9 at the KS State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson

--PLEASE plan on Eating Out at the MCC Sale this Friday anytime after 4pm and all day Sat. after 8 am. This is something that EVERYONE can do. It is all about Raising Money in the Name of Christ for the MANY suffering. PLEASE help take pictures of Tabor in Action at MCC Sale and send your pictures to: unruh.sherry@gmail.com

--Children's Coin Offering was \$139.45. Little things do a LOT

--Take a look at the WONDERFUL items that Tabor is donating to the MCC Sale in the Fellowship Hall this morning. If you have a van and are willing to help transport items on Friday morning please contact Jerry or Leann.

--Zweiback must be at church before 9am THIS Friday. If you bring them early please put them in freezer and we will get them to the sale.

--Pies must be at church before 9am THIS Saturday.

--Go to the KS MCC Sale Website and sign up to take a 2 hour shift somewhere.

--Lewis and Carrie still have a few slots open for selling sausage. Signup is on MCC table in Northeast corner of Fellowship Hall.

--Brent and Pam have quite a few open slots for helping make New Years Cookies.

--Kristi and Brandon have a few open slots for helping with Plants and Things.

--Support our INCREDIBLE 5K Tabor Team (pick one to support or give each one a buck or two): Sophia Abrahams; Russell, Camille, Hannah, Micah and Elijah Adrian; Isabelle Alderfer; Janna and Adriana Duerksen; Lee and Phyllis Goertzen; Peter, Katherine, Sophia and Nathan Goerzen; Les Goerzen, Krista and Elaina Graber; Brad, Sara, Jackson and Mia Hiebert; Reece, Cayla and Hoxie Hiebert; Elton and Denise Nickel; Stephan and Corynn Nickel; Wyatt Summerfeld; Isaac Swartzendruber; Michael, Lina and Heath Unruh; Cory, Keri and Boyd Unruh.

--website: kansas.mccsale.org Check it out. Also on Facebook.

OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE			
March 27, 2022			
Offering	= \$ 3,170.00	Attendance	= 127
Adult FF	= \$ 21.00	Attendance	= 34
Jr. FF	= \$ 11.30	Attendance	= 29
Worship Link Views		=	38

BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEREOSITY . . .

Pastor Luke has been a part of the leadership at Tabor Mennonite this past year. It is through Sunday morning offerings alone that we are able to pay salaries. Thank you for your generous giving and for your support extended through verbal affirmations and acts of kindness.



Tabor Mennonite Church
 891 Chisholm Trail, Newton, KS 67114
 Phone: 620-367-2318 email: tabor@tabormennonite.org
 Website: 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	Supply Pastor: Luke Unruh Cell: 620-386-4596 email: lunruh@tabormennonite.org
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Deacons:		
Carol Duerksen	Denise Nickel	Kristi Unruh
Ruby Graber	Emil Schmidt	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	