

Tabor Mennonite Church

Volume LXVII

December 4, 2022

No. 49



On this second Sunday of Advent, we reflect upon the story of Mary visiting Elizabeth. May we, like Elizabeth, be empowered to recognize the ways that Jesus is present with us, in both ordinary and extraordinary ways. And when Jesus' presence is revealed in our midst, may we too respond with joy and wonder.

WORSHIP

PRELUDE Mark Schmidt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Carol Duerksen

LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP AND RINGING THE PRAYER BOWL

CHORAL INTROIT "Advent Celebration" -Jon Paige Adult Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Luke 1:46-55*

*GATHERING PRAYER

GATHERING HYMN "Hark! The Glad Sound!" No. 217
Hymns accompanied by Russell Adrian

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Elaina, Peter, Daniel, Krista,
Nathan Graber and Paula Ariza

SCRIPTURE READING *from Psalm 27:1, 8, 13-14; 2 Corinthians 4:6*

*CHRISTMAS CAROLS "Silent Night, Holy Night" No. 244
"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" -vs. 1, 3, 4, 5 No. 248

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

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

WORSHIP MUSIC "Now the Heavens Start to Whisper" Adult Choir

CHILDREN'S STORY Janna Duerksen

SCRIPTURE READING *Luke 1:39-45* Iradi Amorrotu,
Marlene Schueler, Carol Duerksen, and Maynard Knepp
The Word of God for the people of God. ~ Thanks be to God!

SERMON Pastor Katherine Goerzen

HYMN OF RESPONSE "Helpless and Hungry" No. 268
Trumpet, Peter Goerzen

LITANY OF INSTALLATION FOR PASTOR TODD SCHLOSSER

Led by Micah Hurst, WDC Ministerial Leadership Commission

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CONGREGATIONAL SHARING & PRAYER Pastor Todd Schlosser

*SENDING HYMN "Solemn Stillness, Weary Streets" No. 276

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Please stand if you are able*

Sunday, December 4

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

9:30 am: Worship

YouTube Livestream (also available following the service).

<https://youtu.be/g7Zv0DqsQAY>

10:45 am: Faith Formation for everyone.

Tabor Trading Post will be open in the Hospitality Hall following worship.

3:00 pm: Newton Community Children's Choir Concert at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church. Tabor's singers include Hannah Adrian, Isabelle Alderfer, and Sophia Goerzen.

This Week

Bulletin announcements are due on Thursday mornings

Dec. 4 - Dec. 6 - Tabor serves at New Hope Shelter

Mon, Dec. 5, 5:30 pm - Faithful Fitness.

7:00 pm - Men's Bible Study.

Tues, Dec. 6, 9:30 am - Staff meeting.

Wed. Dec. 7, 9:00 am - TMW quilting & tying comforts.

12:00 pm - 1st Wed. Lunch at Del Puente Cafe in Newton.

Wednesday Evening programs.

5:45 pm - Supper: Mexican Chicken. *Suggested donation \$3.50.*

6:15 - 7:30 pm - Preschool - Grade 5

6:15 - 7:45 pm - Junior High / High School

7:30 - 8:30 pm - Adult Choir practice

Sat, Dec. 10, 9:00 am - TMW Christmas Breakfast

Next Sunday, December 11

9:00 am (approximate): **Prelude.** Come early to worship with beautiful music of the season!

9:30 am: Next Sunday is the third Sunday in Advent. Scripture for reflection will be Matthew 1:18-25, and Pastor Katherine will be preaching.

10:45 am: Faith Formation for everyone.

Tabor Trading Post will be open in the Hospitality Hall following worship.

7:00 pm: Brass Christmas Concert. Everyone is invited to enjoy the McPherson Community Brass Choir, under the direction of Jerry Toews at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church. The Goessel High School Elbiata Singers, under the direction of Braden Unruh will also be featured. A free will offering will support local ministries.

Prayer Requests

Remember to Pray for:

- ★ Hildred Schmidt and for Esley Schmidt's family as they remember Esley's life and grieve this loss. Esley passed away on Wednesday evening, November 30. We pray that the peace of Christ which passes all human understanding will surround everyone who is mourning Esley's death. Memorial service plans are pending.
- ★ those in our congregation who are recovering from illness, recovering from or facing surgeries, grieving, or facing difficulties. Lord, hear our prayers.
- ★ Western District Conference: In this Advent season, give thanks for God's gifts of wisdom, vision and hope for WDC congregations navigating transitions and other discernment processes.
- ★ Mennonite Mission Network: Cassidy Bush, Anna Lubbers, Rachel Miller and Eli Reimer make up MMN's San Francisco (California) Mennonite Voluntary Service unit. Pray for them as they join First Mennonite Church of San Francisco in ministries that work toward reducing poverty and homelessness and promoting social justice, education, and health.

Remember to Praise God for:

- ★ the joy that comes with Advent and the anticipation of Christmas! We are grateful for the beautiful decorations by our visual arts team which draw us into and enhance our worship. We are grateful for our pastors, church committees and teams who plan the special events which we are able to participate in. Thanks be to God!

Congregational Announcements

Get ready for Christmas! Tabor Trading Post will be open December 4 and 11. Funds will be used to help with the support of our Mission Partners, the Hospitality Hall Sound & Video equipment fund, and MCC projects. Let's see if we can fulfill many Christmas wish lists! For more information contact Ruby Graber or Kristi Unruh.

Tabor Mennonite Women and Girls Christmas Breakfast will take place in the Hospitality Hall at 9:00 a.m. on December 10. Bethany Martin from Faith and Life Bookstore will entertain us with Christmas book selections and stories. A sign-up sheet is posted in the foyer.

Christmas Coffee: Everyone is welcome to a Christmas coffee in the fellowship hall on Thursday, Dec. 15 at 9:30 a.m. Please bring a plate/tray of your favorite Christmas goodies. Drinks will be provided. You are encouraged to bring a white elephant gift for a fun gift exchange. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Please sign up by Sunday, Dec. 11. See Leann Toews if you have any questions.

Birthday Celebration! Grace Regier is turning 80 and her family is hosting a Come & Go Coffee to celebrate on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 10 am to 12 pm at Bill & Sherry's home, 4718 E Dutch Ave, Walton. Come help wish her a Very Merry Birthday!

Night In The Barn is two weeks away. The youth have picked their parts but are still in need of a few volunteers. Being part of the Christmas story, singing carols, and fellowship with each other and attendees are your added benefits!! Please let Kristi Unruh know today if you are available. Donations of baked goods will be accepted for the weekend. **Come to the this annual event on December 17 & 18 from 5-7pm** (note end time correction from newsletter calendar) at Patchwork Farms, 372 70th, Newton. Everyone is welcome to attend!!

Advent Giving: MCC's Buckets of Thanks is the MCC kit which Tabor will be donating throughout Advent. Shopping lists for supplies can be found on the shelf below the mailboxes in the foyer. Donate all the items in a relief kit or pick just a few items to donate – all items are helpful and necessary to complete a relief kit bucket. ***Please leave your donations in the basket in the foyer and they will be taken to the MCC Resource Center in North Newton.*** Thanks to Camille Adrian's kindergarten and first grade Wednesday evening class for sorting the supplies and assembling kits as donations come in.

Christmas Giving Tree: The Goessel Ministerial Alliance and the Crossroads Credit Union are sponsoring a community giving tree to help with some of the expenses of Christmas for families in need. Tags with suggestions for gifts for children are available on the tree at the Crossroads Credit Union. Gifts will need to be brought back to the Credit Union by Mo, Dec. 12. The gifts should be wrapped and the credit union personnel will assist with the "checking in" process. It is our goal that everyone has a blessed and happy Christmas, both the giver and the receiver.

Volunteer to be a Greeter: If you'd like to be a Sunday morning greeter but did not greet this past year, please let Diana Schmidt know before December 15th so adjustments can be made to the greeter list. If you have been a greeter this past year, but don't care to remain on the list, please let Diana know. Email: jd77schmidt@hotmail.com Call: 367-8415

Blood Drive: In this busy holiday season make time to donate blood on December 12, between 1-6 pm at the Goessel Church. The need continues! Make a single unit donation or a Power Red donation to help meet the needs. Sign up for your appointment time online at redcrossblood.org. For more information contact Nancy Stucky 620-747-0081 or Rosie Reimer 620-367-2418. Thanks for giving this gift of life!

Upcoming:

- Dec. 4 & 11 - Tabor Trading Post
- Dec. 7 - 1st Wednesday Women's Lunch
- Dec. 10 - TMW Christmas Breakfast
- Dec. 11 - Christmas Brass Concert at Alexanderwohl Mennonite
- Dec. 12 - Goessel Community Blood Drive, Goessel Church
- Dec. 15 - Christmas Coffee (men and women) in Hospitality Hall
- Dec. 17-18 - Night in the Barn
- Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service
- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Worship (10am)

Conference and Community Announcements

Mennonite Church USA: The denominational Advent at Home worship guide is now available. The guide is designed for families and people of all ages, offering weekly Scriptures, background information, prayers, activities and rituals around this year's theme from Leader magazine, "Restoration is Near." Look for it here: mennoniteusa.org/lentathome

Camp Mennoscah:

--Thank you to those who helped with the amphitheater in November! The work is not yet finished, but we are closer! Keep looking for the next opportunity to help out!

--[Application and further details for summer staffers here!](#) We are seeking stunning summer staff to fill the following leadership positions for the 2023 summer: crafts, lifeguard, music, nature, office, and grounds. These positions are typically filled by college-age students, are summer-long and receive a stipend. A summer of fun, service and faith formation!

Hesston College:

--**Sunflower Performing Arts** - Calmus: Christmas A Cappella- Dec. 6, 7 pm, Hesston Mennonite Church. This outstanding vocal quintet returns to present a wonderful holiday concert featuring Christmas songs from around the world. Based in Leipzig, Germany, the internationally acclaimed ensemble will collaborate with Bel Canto Singers on two selections. What a great way to get into the holiday spirit! More info and tickets at sunflowerarts.org.

--**Class to audit:** Missional Leadership led by Michelle Hershberger. Monday evenings, beginning January 16, 6:30-8:45 pm, online via zoom. Cost: \$300 to audit. HC students will also be in the class, taking it for credit. Deadline to register, January 9. Questions: contact Michele Hershberger at michele.hershberger@hesston.edu

Bethel College:

- Tues., Dec. 6 – Bethel College Steel Drum Ensemble concert, directed by Brad Shores, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- Weds., Dec. 7 – Singalong to Christmas portions of Handel's Messiah, 11 a.m., with chamber orchestra and soloists, Bethel College Mennonite Church. Scores provided.
- Fri., Dec. 9 – Christmas Gala Jazz concert, directed by Joel Boettger, 8 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center
- Sun., Dec. 11 – 37th annual Lighting of the Green, 8 p.m. on the Bethel College campus

Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary: Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program. Encourage someone you know who has gifts for ministry to check out this distance-friendly undergraduate-level AMBS program! Journey supports learners as they explore spiritual leadership in their local churches and communities and deepen their understanding of Anabaptist theology and ministry with a dedicated mentor. The Spring 2023 cohort begins Feb. 22; those who apply by Dec. 7 can save \$100! ambs.edu/journey

Everence will hold an informative Medicare webinar on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m. Topics include, when and where to sign up for Medicare, what Medicare does/doesn't cover, Medicare Parts A, B, C and D, plus budgeting for health care costs in retirement. There will a 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. Attendance recommended for those approaching retirement or those ready to sign up for Medicare.

OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE			
November 27, 2022			
Offering	= \$ 9,400.00	Attendance	= 128
Adult FF	= \$ 33.00	Attendance	= 44
Jr. FF	= \$ 10.92	Attendance	= 33
Worship Link Views			= 50

BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY . . .
we met and surpassed the amount needed to meet the 2022 Tabor Church Budget!

Litany of Installation for Pastor Todd Schlosser

Denise Nickel, Congregational Representative: Today we celebrate the installation of Todd Schlosser as Pastor at Tabor Mennonite Church! We welcome Micah Hurst, a member of the Western District Conference Ministerial Leadership Commission to lead in this service of installation.

Micah Hurst, WDC Representative: “There is one body and one Spirit ... one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift. And Christ’s gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4:4-7, 11-12). Today, we give thanks that Todd Schlosser has been called to exercise the gifts God has given him in leadership ministry, as Pastor here at Tabor Mennonite Church.

Congregational Representative: We have hoped and worked for this day, praying that God would guide us. God is faithful, and today we celebrate that God has led us together with you, Todd. We pray that in the giving of your gifts to us, and the giving of our gifts to you, our work and service will fulfill God’s purposes in our congregation, this community and the world.

WDC Representative: Todd, seeing that the grace of God has called you into leadership in this church, I now ask you: Do you hold to the promises you made at your baptism and ordination? And do you believe that this calling and your acceptance of it are in response to the leading of the Holy Spirit?

Pastor Todd Schlosser: I do, with God’s help.

WDC Representative: Will you seek to be faithful in prayer, in setting forth the Scriptures, and in seeking the good of this congregation? And will you seek to live honestly, openly and justly with your brothers and sisters in this congregation?

Pastor Todd Schlosser: I will, with God’s help.

WDC Representative: A call to pastoral leadership in the Mennonite Church is a call to shared ministry. Todd, as a member of the pastoral staff, will you willingly share your leadership and counsel with Pastor Katherine, even as you receive her gifts and insight in shared ministry?

Pastor Todd Schlosser: I will, with God’s help.

WDC Representative (to Pastor Katherine): Katherine, as a member of the pastoral staff, will you willingly share your leadership and counsel with Pastor Todd even as you receive his gifts and insights in shared ministry?

Pastor Katherine Goerzen: I will, with God’s help.

WDC Representative (to congregation): Christian friends, you have heard the commitment that Todd Schlosser has made in accepting the call to serve as Pastor at Tabor Mennonite Church. I now invite you to express your affirmation for his ministry, by joining with Todd in the reading in *Voices Together* #967:

Pastor Todd Schlosser:

I pledge with you to seek first the reign of God,
and discern the leading of the Holy Spirit,
to follow the way of Jesus and grow into the mind of Christ,
to love God and love our neighbors,
to study the Scriptures prayerfully,
and give thanks through all things for the steadfast love and mercy of God.

Community:

*We promise to receive your wisdom
and offer you counsel for the benefit of our lives together,
to respect you as a leader in this community of faith
and endure with you in times of disagreement,
to support your leadership with prayer and resources
and bless you in gratitude, grace and hope for the ministry we share.*

WDC Representative: Based on this covenant between the congregation and you, Todd, I now install you as a Pastor of Tabor Mennonite Church. May God empower you with wisdom, insight, strength, and love as you carry out your mission in this community and beyond. Let us pray:

O God, you call your people to service through the church. Bless the covenant made this day between Todd Schlosser and Tabor Mennonite Church.

We thank you for the calling to pastoral leadership, and pray for Todd as he begins his new role as Pastor in this congregation. Be a source of strength to him, and endow him with the fruit of the Spirit: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Bless and sustain Todd in his ministry, and help him always to sense your presence within and before him. Bind him and this congregation together in the bond of peace.

“Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God’s will, working among us that which is pleasing in God’s sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever” (Hebrews 13:20-21). Amen.



Tabor Mennonite Church

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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

Todd Schlosser

Cell: 316-727-4986

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Deacons:

Carol Duerksen
Ruby Graber

Denise Nickel
Emil Schmidt

Kristi Unruh
Lewis Unruh