

August 26, 2007
Christian Education Sunday
“Hearing the Voice of the Shepherd”

“My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me.” -John 10:27

Gathering to Worship

PRELUDE Sara Adrian

WELCOME Worship Leader, Fred Schmidt

CALL TO WORSHIP (unison)

O Lord our God,
gentle shepherd of the flock,
in you we find security,
in you we discover identity.
Before we knew we were lost,
you searched for us
and brought us safely to the fold.
We hear your voice, and we come to you.
Amen.

Praising God

*GATHERING OUR PRAISE *“On the radiant threshold”* No. 649

*PRAYING FOR GOD’S PRESENCE

*SINGING OUR PRAISE *“Give me joy in my heart”* No. 25CS

*GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please pass the welcome pads*

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND DEDICATING THEM

SPECIAL MUSIC *“Sonata” -Marcello* Hildred Schmidt
Andantino & Allegro

Hearing God’s Word

CHILDREN’S TIME Corey Miller

HEARING THE OLD TESTAMENT *Psalm 23* Erlene Unruh
paraphrased by Erlene

SERMON *“Lessons from a Shepherd”* Karen Andres
John 10:22-30

BLESSING OUR TEACHERS

Responding to God’s Word

RESPONSE (congregation) No. 795

SHARING AND PRAYING

Lord we give you our thanks **-“Thanks be to God”**
Lord we pray to you **-“Hear our prayer”**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Today

The Bible speaks of Jesus as the Good Shepherd and we his sheep. The sheep hear his voice and they know to whom they belong. As we think about Christian education, how are we nurturing our faith to hear the voice of the Shepherd? Through believing, trusting, and doing, our faith is lived out in relationship with Jesus Christ. May you hear his voice today!

We are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us!

A warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. This morning you were greeted by Ron & Nancy Schroeder and Lois & Lester Voth. *Please take time to fill out our friendship pad.* Come back & join us again soon.

Childcare is available during worship today.

10:45 a.m.—Sunday School for everyone.

Children ages 2 through grade 5 meet in rooms 10-12.

Jr/Hs Youth & Adults: Continuing the series on *Practicing our Faith*—Educational settings: Carrie Unruh, Ilona Abrahams, Janna Duerksen.

On the table in the foyer are **PRAYER REQUEST CARDS**. You are invited to fill one out if you have a request and return it to a pastor's box.

Noon: Christian Ed. **appreciation dinner** for those who taught Sunday school last year and those planning to teach this year. This includes Preschool-Adult teachers. A brief orientation meeting will follow.

5:30-8:30 p.m.—**Miller BBQ/Bluegrass Festival**. We are combining these two great events in the park tonight at Tabor. We will have fresh gourmet hamburgers, beans, chips AND homemade ice cream!!!! Not only that but we will be hearing from several musical groups who have been practicing hard for a while. And did I mention that all this is free for you! An unbelievable deal. Bring a friend. Bring a neighbor. Bring someone who might need to feel Tabor's love and community. The serving begins at 5:30pm. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. In case of rain, we'll meet in the dry basement! We welcome you all.

- Corey and Nancy and Quarterly Fellowship Committee

GIFT DISCERNMENT SHEETS are due today. Please turn these sheets in so the Gifts Discernment Committee can do their work. At any time this fall if the Holy Spirit leads you to think of someone for a ministry, don't hesitate to let Warren Schmidt or a committee member know. May we all be open to discovering our spiritual gifts and may we all be open to claim the ministry that God is laying on our hearts at this time. "Here am I, Send Me."

This Week

Tuesday, August 28

7:30 p.m.— Centennial Committee meeting.

Wednesday, August 29

7:00 p.m.—Deacon's meeting at Myron Voth's home.

Thursday, August 30

7:30 p.m.—Prayer/Envisioning Team meeting.

Next Sunday, September 2

9:30 a.m.—Next Sunday's theme will be "*Laboring for God*". The texts will be Hebrews 13:1-8, Psalm 112, Luke 14:7-14 and Corey will be preaching.

10:45 a.m.—Sunday School for everyone.

Announcements

THANK YOU

I want to thank all of you who offered thoughts, prayers and support during my recent surgery. The caring quilt was especially comforting. God bless you all. —Rollin Schmidt

I'd like to say thanks to the congregation and some special people for supporting me with my faith journey this summer. I'm doing pretty good back here in Germany. I enjoy my (almost) daily Bible study and I'm getting more and more into that idea of doing some sort of ministry in the future. Corey, thanks again for all your help and support. I really appreciated your time this summer and look forward to be back at Tabor church this winter. —God bless, Daniel Funke

Daniel's Address: Daniel Funke, Virchowstrabe 4, Hereford, Germany.
email: dannofunke@hotmail.de

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

>>Christian Education is looking for 4-5 people who would be willing to be on a "**dream team**" for issues involving **Christian Education at Tabor**. This team would meet for a year with a goal to present a proposal to the congregation in Nov. 2008 regarding the restructuring of the committee and Sunday school among other things. If you are interested or have more questions, talk with Pastor Karen.

>>If you have an interest in being in charge of the **Christmas Eve program**, please contact a member of the Christian Ed. committee or Pastor Karen. We need to have someone in place by September.

TABOR CHURCH CAMPOUT is coming next month! Make plans to attend our annual campout/retreat at Camp Mennoscah, September 15-16. The theme is "Rivers of Delight" and we will be celebrating a baptism on Sunday morning. Registration fliers need to be returned to the box in the foyer by Sept. 9. Make plans to attend!

THE ANNUAL GOESSEL AREA CROP WALK is being planned for Sunday, September 30 at 1:30 p.m. We will begin the walk at Tabor Mennonite Church in a 2 mile mini-walk or 6 mile crop walk. People in many countries walk that distance simply to obtain water or firewood. Walkers are invited to bring an item for the Tabor Food Pantry on the day of the walk. There will be a drop off box at Tabor when you begin walking. *The JR HI Area Youth will again be walking but need to get their envelopes from your church recruiter, since there won't be a local meeting until later in September.* Sign up and get your CROP Walk collection envelope from our church CROP Walk Representative, Kevin Nickel.

BE GENEROUS-SHARE YOUR GARDEN PRODUCE AT CHURCH!! Anyone may bring fresh produce to share with others. Place produce in the food pantry room any Sunday morning throughout the growing season. Anyone may take home the produce from the table. We ask that your share a small money donation to help support our Tabor Church Food Pantry Ministry.

HELP WANTED: JOYFUL NOISE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM TEACHER Must be energetic, creative, organized, enthusiastic, and at least 18! Mon.-Fri., 3:00-6:00 p.m. Call #367-4620 for an application or send resume to: JNCCC ASP, P.O. Box 5 Goessel, KS 67053

MCC FLATLANDER BICYCLE RIDE: The annual MCC Flatlander Bicycle Ride to raise funds for MCC water projects in Africa and Asia will be held on Sat., Sept. 15, originating at the MCC offices in North Newton. Informational brochures are available through the church office. Support one of Tabor's riders: Elton and Denise Nickel, Jerry Toews, Kristin and Archie Schmidt. *If you are planning to ride, please let Kim know so we can list your name.*

CAMP MENNOSCAH:

>>**Women's and Girls' Retreat**, Sept.7-9. *Ready, Set . . . Relax!* Speaker—Beverly Baumgartner.

>>**Work and Play Camp** Sept. 16-20 at Camp Mennoscah. We will work together on several projects, Floyd Bartel will lead us in Bible Study and on Tuesday evening, our special presenter is Paul Jantzen of Hillsboro. For more information or to register, contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290.

>>**Family Camp/Mennofolk** will take place in the cool of the fall from Friday October 12 to Sunday October 14. Activities will include music, dancing, games, crafts, campfire, worship, and all sorts of outdoor fun. If you would like to be there please pre-register by September 28. To register or find more information please contact the camp office or look for the family camp flyer on your church bulletin board.

WANTED: TRACTOR DRIVERS for the Kansas State Fair. Drive a brand new John Deere tractor with AC and stereo to shuttle people from the parking lot to the entrance and back Thursday, Sept. 13. You get a FREE ticket to go see the fair that day when you volunteer for a 3 hour shift. We need 2 drivers from 1 to 4pm; 2 drivers from 4 to 7pm; and 2 drivers from 7 to 10pm. In return the State Fair Board gives the Kansas MCC Sale a \$5000 donation. PLEASE let our contact couple, Kris and Archie Schmidt know if you can take one of these slots. THANKS

ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS:

Letter from **BEN SCHMIDT**, serving with MVS in Washington D.C.

LIFE ENRICHMENT at Bethel College begins Sept. 5. Schedule is posted.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS TO ENHANCE PERSONAL, FAMILY AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE, Sept. 29, 8:30am-3:30pm, sponsored and hosted by Zion Mennonite Church, Elbing.

Volunteer information for **HOSPICE CARE OF KANSAS**. Particular need for volunteers in Peabody, Goessel, Hesston and Moundridge areas.

PRAIRIE VIEW: Information on free Family Caregiver Services

FALL THRESHER GOLF CLASSIC to benefit Bethel College. Sept. 15, Hesston. Registration deadline Sept. 5. Early discount by Aug. 31.

HEALTHCARE SUMMIT: FINDING OUR VOICE, September 15 (8:30am-3:30pm). Registration deadline Sept. 2, forms on the table in the foyer. Sponsored by Hoffnungsau Mennonite Church and WDC.

Newsletter items are due on Monday, August 27.

ANABAPTIST VISION AND DISCIPLESHIP SERIES CONFERENCE: "Politics pits people against each other—even Christians against Christians. Should Christians be involved in politics? Would Jesus belong to a political party? Can we talk with each another (and listen!) when we disagree? Come to Hesston College Oct. 19-21 for "Christian Ministry in a Red and Blue World." Greg Boyd (well known speaker and author of the New York Times Best seller *The Myth of a Christian Nation*), John D. Roth (Goshen College professor and popular speaker) and a host of workshop presenters will lead us in our conversation. Check the link on our website (www.hesston.edu) to register!"

God's Peace: It can be lived out in your life.

Jesus chose to be around small children a number of times in his ministry, often over the objections of his disciples. Sometimes he seems to have done this in order to hold children up as examples of the childlike qualities that enable God's Realm. But maybe, sometimes, he just wanted to hold them. - Susan Ross