

September 9, 2007

“Bringing Refreshment”

“Let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ!” -Philemon 20

Gathering to Worship

PRELUDE Deloris Schmidt

WELCOME Worship Leader, Elaine Schroeder

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In response to God’s invitation, we have gathered to worship.

**People: As a deer gets thirsty for streams of water,
so we are truly thirsty for God.**

As a people living in the world, we come seeking God’s face.

Leader: Open your lives then, and expect to meet God.

Open your ears and expect to hear God.

Open your hearts, and expect to be refreshed.

**People: In openness and with eager expectation,
we are here to worship, convinced that God will meet us,
and that his river of life flows for us.**

All: Let us worship God together.

Praising God

*GATHERING OUR PRAISE *“God of the earth, the sky, the sea”* No. 53

*PRAYING FOR GOD’S PRESENCE from Psalm 1

*SINGING OUR PRAISE *“Joys are flowing like a river”* No. 301

*GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Please pass the welcome pads*

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND DEDICATING THEM

CHILDREN’S TIME Carol Duerksen

SPECIAL MUSIC Bill Froese and Brain Voth

Hearing God’s Word

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 30:15-20* Karen Andres

SONG *“Create in me”* No. 76CS

SERMON *“The Philemon Story”* Corey Miller & Doug Krehbiel

“They’ll know we are Christians by our love” No. 105CS

Responding to God’s Word

SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

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

Lord we pray to you **-“Hear our prayer”**

*SENDING SONG *“Lord, I am fondly, earnestly”* No. 514

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Today

Do you bring refreshment to people? Are the words you say and the actions you do like a cool refreshing drink? In the story of Philemon, Paul asks his friend to “*refresh my heart in Christ.*” May we be refreshed by God’s presence today!

We are so glad you are here today.

A warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. This morning you were greeted by Kathy Schroeder and Lee and Phyllis Goertzen. *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.

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—Potluck grocery shower for Krista and Nathan Graber.

TABOR CHURCH CAMPOUT is coming next weekend! There are new events planned for this year’s campout. Expect to drink deeply from the River of God’s Delight. Registration deadline is TODAY. Don’t miss out!

This Week

Wednesday, September 12

7:00 p.m.— Gift Discernment Committee meeting.

7:00 p.m.— Goessel Area Jr Hi Parent/Youth meeting at Goessel Mennonite Church. Jr Highers (gr 7-8) bring ideas for this year’s activities. Parents be ready to discuss ideas & sign parental consent form.

Thursday, September 13

7:00 p.m.—Education Committee meeting.

Saturday, September 15

7:00 a.m.—MCC Flatlander bicycle ride. Tabor’s riders: Jerry Toews, Kristin and Archie Schmidt.

Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah.

Next Sunday, September 16

Church Retreat at Camp Mennoscah

There will be no worship service here at Tabor. At Camp Mennoscah, the theme will be “*River’s of Delight*”. The texts will be Psalm 36:5-9, Ezekiel 47:1-12, and Matthew 3:13-17. Corey will be sharing and the high point will be Jake Schrag’s baptism and blessing. Please come out and support Jake and join in the fellowship at Mennoscah.

Announcements

DOROTHY JANZEN will turn 80 years old on September 22. She loves Tabor and its people, always asking about them and praying for them. She would really appreciate your visits and cards. Her address is: Dorothy Janzen, Bethesda Home, PO Box 37, Goessel, KS 67053

TGYF KICKOFF COMING: September 19, 7pm starting at the Tabor parsonage basement and ending . . . well , who knows where? Wear outdoor, not-your-best– sports clothing. We'll also elect our new youth execs. Snacks will be provided. Come see our new indoor rec. equipment. See ya There!

CENTENNIAL STORIES GATHERING: Sunday evening September 30 at 7 p.m. Come prepared to hear and tell stories of Tabor Church life over the past 100 years. Enjoy apple crisp and ice cream. We hope to gather stories from this gathering for the centennial book. You may also bring any old photos related to the topic. If you have questions, contact: Carol Duerksen, John Goerzen, Elaine Schroeder or Nancy Miller.

DEVOTIONAL BOOK FOR CENTENNIAL! To help celebrate Tabor's Centennial on October 10-12, 2008, we are hoping to create a devotional booklet that will be written by YOU! We are inviting all Tabor attenders to write a short devotional (around 400 words) that might include a personal story, a scripture text and some reflections on that text and your story. You can submit any devotions to Corey's mailbox at church, or if you have a computer, you can email them to Corey at cmiller@tabormennonite.org. The cutoff date for the devotions will be **February 1**.

WILLING HELPERS will meet for a Work Evening, September 17, 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

>>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. In keeping with our centennial theme, we would like to focus on Christmas traditions of the past. Place your memories in Karen's box.

>>**Gather 'Round Refresher Workshop** at First Mennonite, Halstead, on Sunday, Sept. 23, from 1:30 - 3:00 pm. This will be an interactive training session on the Gather 'Round curriculum led by WDC Minister of Christian Nurture Marlene Bogard. This can serve as an introduction for those who are new to the curriculum or as a refresher. Bring your Fall, 2007 Gather 'Round curriculum. Register by calling WDC offices, 316-283-6300 or emailing wdc@mennowdc.org. Cost: \$5.00 / person. *Tabor's Education Committee will pay your registration. Let Kim know if you will attend.*

SUBSCRIBE TO TIMBREL: Anyone who has not already renewed their subscription to Timbrel or would like a new subscription may still get in on the group rates. Let Barb Banman know as soon as possible if you would like a subscription for one year at \$12, two years at \$22 or three years at \$30. Timbrel is mailed to your home. Make your check out to Mennonite Women USA and return to Barb by Sept. 16.

THE ANNUAL GOESSEL AREA CROP WALK for the hungry is Sept. 30. In the country of Senegal, 120 women in the villages are learning to use irrigation to grow round gardens and then improve their food security with the help of Church World Service and Mennonite Central Committee. Many women and children still walk miles a day for water for drinking, laundry and gardens. Make this a family event, Sunday school project, youth outing, or mentor/mentee time. The six mile (or opt. two mile) walk will help walkers recognize that long distance walking is a way of life for many of our world neighbors. See Kevin Nickel for a CROP WALKER ENVELOPE and T-Shirt form. We need more walkers and sponsors. All checks should be made out to CROP and can be designated to MCC. Please pay your walker before the WALK.

"THE GREAT TREK": Walt Friesen will report on the tour to the Ukraine and Uzbekistan focusing on the Story of Russian Mennonites and Claus Epp at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, Sunday, Sept. 16, 7:00 p.m. There will be opportunity to contribute to missions in Molotschna.

STORY TIME FOR CHILDREN ages 3-5 will begin at the Conference Resource Library in N. Newton on Wednesday, September 19, 10:00 - 10:40 a.m. (Note change of time from past years) Our story teller is Kara Janzen,

a substitute school teacher who has recently taught Kindergarten for 3 1/2 years. Kara graduated from Bethel College with a degree in Elem. Educ. with a minor in Music and says she "loves spending time with small children." Please call the library at 316-283-6300 if you have any questions and to reserve your spot!

CAMP MENNOSCAH:

>>**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 LaVerle Schrag of Hutchinson. See brochure on bulletin board. For more information or to register, contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290.

>>**Family Camp/Mennofolk** will take place Friday October 12 to Sunday October 14. Activities will include music, dancing, games, crafts, campfire, worship, and all sorts of outdoor fun. 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: ONE MORE TRACTOR DRIVER for the Kansas State Fair. Thursday, Sept. 13 from 7 to 10pm. You get a FREE ticket to go see the fair that day. PLEASE let Kris & Archie Schmidt know if you can take this slot. THANKS.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

>>**MCC Service Workers Linda Kusse-Wolfe and David Wolfe** will present *Life with the Ayatollahs: Two MCCers Experience in Qom, Iran* at Shalom Mennonite Church (800 E.1st Street, Newton) on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 7:00 p.m. They will give an overview of life in Qom plus some Interfaith Bridgebuilding experiences. Light refreshments will follow the program.

>>**Floods are affecting millions of people in Bangladesh, Nepal and India**, destroying homes and crops and claiming hundreds of lives. MCC is responding with \$250,000 in aid for people harmed by the flooding. However, MCC needs an additional \$129,000 to help farmers and communities recover and mitigate future floods. Your contributions are needed now. Contributions should be designated "South Asia Flood Response" and can be made at any MCC office or online at mcc.org/donate.

VISION 2012 - URGENT NEED: The Retreat Commission of WDC would like to inform WDC constituents of the urgent housing needs at Camp Mennoscah. The director and her family have been "homeless" since April. The former director's home must be demolished due to rat and mold infestation. The commission is exploring options for quality permanent housing for both maintenance staff and director. Due to the urgency of this need, we must move quickly. We ask for your prayers and support as we make important long-term decisions. Contributions for this project need to be earmarked for "Director's home" through Vision 2012 and sent to WDC, Box 306, N. Newton KS 67117.

ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS:

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

BETHEL COLLEGE FALL FESTIVAL, Market on the Green, October 6. Suggested donations and details are listed.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS TO ENHANCE PERSONAL, FAMILY AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE, Sept. 29, 8:30am-3:30pm, sponsored and hosted by Zion Mennonite Church, Elbing. See brochure on bulletin board for registration details.

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

But as for me, I am filled with power, with the spirit of the Lord, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin. Hear this, you rulers of the house of Jacob and chiefs of the house of Israel, who abhor justice and pervert all equity, who build Zion with blood and Jerusalem with wrong! - *Micah 3:8-10*

