

November 25, 2007

“Forgiveness”

“. . . through Christ, God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things . . .”
- Colossians 1:20

Gathering to Worship

PRELUDE Diana Schmidt

WELCOME Worship Leader, Karen Andres

CALL TO WORSHIP From Psalm 103

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all this is within me,
bless his holy name.

People: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits.

Leader: Who forgives all our iniquity and heals all our diseases.

People: Who redeems our life from the Pit,

Leader: Who removes our transgressions from us.

People: Who satisfies us with good as long as we live.

All: Bless the LORD, O, my soul, for we are forgiven and free in Christ!

*PRAYING FOR GOD’S PRESENCE

Praising God

*SINGING OUR PRAISE “Sing to the Lord of harvest” No. 98

*GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Please pass the welcome pads

WORSHIPING WITH OUR OFFERING AND DEDICATING THEM

This is the last Sunday to joyfully give to the ministries we have committed to.

CHILDREN’S STORY Carol Duerksen

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

John and Ruth Peters

Janessa Wedel

Frances Voth

Proclaiming God’s Word

HEARING THE SCRIPTURES *Jeremiah 23:1-6 and Colossians 1:11-20*
Hayden Goerzen and James Goerzen

*GOSPEL READING *Luke 23:33-43*

SERMON “Forgive . . . Or Pay the Price” Corey Miller

PRAYER No. 800

Responding to God’s Word

A STORY OF FORGIVENESS AT TABOR Donavon Schmidt Myron Voth

HYMN “Forgive our sins as we forgive” No. 137

SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

*SENDING SONG “There’s a wideness in God’s mercy” No. 145

*BLESSING AND SENDING

POSTLUDE

Today

God calls us to forgive one another, because we are human and will make mistakes. Jesus modeled forgiveness in his life and most profoundly in his last moments on the cross. We will reflect together this morning on God's call for us to forgive each other in the same way that God has forgiven us.

We are so glad you are here. A special welcome to anyone here because of Thanksgiving gatherings. Your presence brings peace and joy to us all!

A warm welcome to all who are worshiping with us today. This morning you were greeted by Elaine Schroeder. *Please take time to fill out our friendship pad.* Come back & join us again soon.

Childcare is available during worship today.

Once a month the worship service will feature a historical focus. This month the focus is on forgiveness. The dialogue about service in the military occurs between Rev. P. H. Richert and Rev. H. B Schmidt. Information was obtained from Tabor Church records and written by Elaine Schroeder.

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.

LAST CHANCE TO GIVE THIS YEAR! The fiscal year at Tabor Mennonite Church comes to an end at the end of November. That means **THIS SUNDAY** is the last Sunday to give in our offertory a gift to God. We need almost \$9000 to meet our goals. Let's respond with thanksgiving in our offering this morning so we can follow through with our intentions and glorify God!

This Week

Newsletter items are due Monday, November 26

Tuesday, November 27

Noon—Goessel/Peabody/Walton Lunch Bunch at the Senior Center in Goessel. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

7:00 p.m.—Worship/Fellowship Committee meeting.

Wednesday, November 28

Evening Activities for Everyone

7:00 pm—Historical Committee Meets.

Saturday, December 1

7:00 a.m.—Men's Bible Study on Mark 7, in the Pastor's Study.

Next Sunday, December 2

NEXT SUNDAY is the first Sunday of Advent. The theme is "**Peace**". The scripture texts are Isaiah 9:2-7, Luke 1:26-38 and Matthew 1:18-25 and Corey will be preaching. We have many exciting things happening over the next six weeks, so be sure to attend!

During the advent season we will be receiving items for Mennonite Central Committee **Relief kits** during our offerings.

Dec. 2: 4 new bath towels (medium weight, dark color) and 1 fingernail clipper.

Dec. 9: 4 bars bath soap (4-5 oz. in wrappers) 1 plastic bottle shampoo (13-24 oz. place in resealable plastic bag & 1 box adhesive bandages (min 40, assorted).

Dec. 16: 10 cups powdered laundry detergent (double bag in 1 gal resealable plastic bag), 1 comb (8") and 1 hairbrush, remove packaging. Dec. 23: 1 squeeze-tube toothpaste (min. 6oz. in box), 4 adult size tooth-brushes (in packaging) and 1 pkg. sanitary pads (18-24 thin maxi or ultra thin).

Shopping list of items to complete a kit were in mailboxes last week.

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

All college-age people are invited to Les and Cynthia Goerzen's home next Sunday, December 2, right after the church service for devotions and visiting, followed by lunch.

Announcements

THANKS

Thank you very much for your prayers that were said for my family after we received the news that my nephew, Nathan Fast, had died in a car accident. It brought comfort to me to know that we were all in your prayers, as we dealt with trying to locate my brother and sister-in-law who were on vacation, and our being at a distance in Washington, D.C., visiting Ben. The caring quilt, cards, phone calls, and hugs all combined to help us feel your caring during this time. --Diana Schmidt and family

Thank you to everyone who donated groceries for the shower last Sunday. It is very much appreciated. -Shannon and Steven Hastings

Thanks to the Goessel High School student body for the pickup load of groceries donated to Tabor's Food Pantry. This generosity will go a long way in assisting those persons in need.

YOU ARE AFFIRMED! Praise God for those willing to continue using their gifts here at Tabor, and for those willing to accept new responsibilities in the church. Strong affirmation was received from you fellow members at the 1st Half Annual Meeting - 70 unanimous affirmations were received and only 4 ballots withheld affirmations for one or more persons.

COMMITMENTS WELCOME: If you have not turned in your commitment form, we invite you to place your sheet in the box in the foyer. We need all of your gifts to carry out all of Tabor's ministries that God has given us.

LUNCH BUNCH: Ladies, please sign up for the Goessel/Peabody/Walton lunch bunch on November 27 at noon at the Goessel AGAPE Senior Center.

INVITATION TO LADIES: All ladies are invited to join Willing Helpers Society. We have day time and evening meetings with good fellowship. If you are interested or have questions, contact Norma Graber.

NEEDED: DEVOTIONALS FOR THE DEVOTIONAL BOOK! Devotionals are still needed for the Centennial Celebration. If you find writing difficult, then give Corey a call and he'll listen to the story and help you write it. Send any devotionals to: cmiller@tabormennonite.org.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO *THE MENNONITE*: If you would like to subscribe to or renew your subscription to *The Mennonite* for the coming year, please fill out the form found in your mailboxes and return to the box in the foyer by December 9. Donations toward the cost of subscriptions are welcome and help with keeping that line item in our budget down.

FISCAL YEAR 2007 IS ALMOST OVER: Now is your chance to get your annual reports submitted early and avoid the holiday rush! Reports need to be in the secretary's hands no later than January 6. Place in the secretary's mail box, or better yet if possible, email your report to kfunk@tabormennonite.org.

WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE:

>>***The Five Places of Christmas***—Saturday, December 1, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The day will feature a Christmas open house of the restored Leisy house on the Bethel College Campus, located at 303 E 24th St., North Newton. Come, see the decorating ideas, enjoy the dulcimer music by David Anderson. Tasty holiday baked items will be available at the bake sale sponsored by the Bethel College Women's Association.

>>Children, youth and adults, come and see! We expanded! We redecorated! We have even more resources to offer than ever before! Come and celebrate during our Open House at the **Western District Conference Resource Library**, 2517 N Main, in North Newton, KS on Sunday, **December 2**, from 4-6 p.m. Dedication is at 4, followed by refreshments and storytelling.

GOESSEL MENNONITE HERITAGE MUSEUM presents Christmas Crèches on Nov.25 from 1:00 – 7:30 p.m. Admission by donation. 3:00 p.m. - Reception for Darlene Schroeder's 10 years of service at the Museum. 3:30 p.m. - Christmas Vespers around the Pump Organ. Offering will benefit the museum.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A LOCAL WAY TO SERVE MCC? The Newton Et Cetera Shop is looking for volunteers in a variety of areas. Contact Diana Miller at 316-283-9461 for more details.

FAITH & LIFE BOOKSTORE, Newton, invites you to a book signing by Mennonite children's author Cindy Snider Sunday, Dec. 2, 2 to 4 p.m. Snider attends Mennonite Church of the Servant, Wichita, and is a former communications director for Mennonite Church USA. Her novel, *Finding Anna Bee* written for ages 8-12, follows six friends as they travel back in time to witness the courage of Anabaptist martyrs and

leaders. Ten percent of the proceeds from the sale of books at Faith & Life will go to Peace Connections in Newton.

ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS:

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE Update.

God's Peace: It can be lived out at all ages:

I keep deciding to believe in God, even on bad days. In this, my seventh decade, faith seems to me not certainty but commitment, a renewable vow.

- Doris Betts