

December 30, 2007
Emmanuel: God Is With Us

First Sunday of Christmas

*“ . . . the young woman . . . shall bear a son,
and shall name him Immanuel . . . ”*

-Isaiah 7:14

Gathering

PRELUDE Cross Road

WELCOME Worship Leader, Janessa Wedel

GREETING EACH OTHER

OPENING WORDS

Leader: Some people say that Christmas is for children.

People: Christmas is also for people of age and experience.

Leader: Elizabeth, Mary's cousin, and Zechariah, the priest,
accepted new birth breaking into all their familiar patterns.

**People: Simeon the singer and Anna the prophet hoped for many
years to see the Messiah and then recognized Him in a
poor couple's baby.**

Leader: How then shall we respond to Christ's promised coming?

**People: With willingness for change, with patience in long waiting,
with silence and singing, with the ability to see Christ in
the least likely of our brothers and sisters.**

***ALL: Today, we also praise God and we will speak about
this child, who has been born to us!***

Praising God

*SINGING OUR PRAISE *“Good Christian friends, rejoice”* No. 210

*INVOCATION

*SINGING OUR PRAISE *“Angels from the realms of glory”* No. 50CS

OFFERING OUR GIFTS IN WORSHIP

CHILDREN'S STORY Jason Unruh

Hearing God's Word

HEARING THE NEW TESTAMENT *Hebrews 2:10-18* Alex Drake

SPECIAL MUSIC Janessa Wedel

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 7:14-17* Sheldon Goerzen

SPECIAL MUSIC Mary Ulsaker

*HEARING THE GOSPEL *Luke 2:22-38* Travis Buller

MEDITATION *“The Wait is Over!”* Michael Unruh

Responding

MUSICAL INTERLUDE Cross Road
RESPONSE HYMN "What Child is this?" No. 215
SHARING AND CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Sending

*HYMN OF HOPE "Angels we have heard on high" No. 197
BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE

Today

When Jesus was dedicated in the temple, Simeon and Anna the prophet began to celebrate. After waiting for many years to see the Messiah, they were able to recognize Him in a poor couple's baby and their praise was great!

Today, our College Students will lead us in celebrating the joy of Christmas on this first Sunday in the Christmas year. The swirls on the Christmas banner represent the star over Bethlehem. It's rays shine down on the Christ Child in the manger. Light radiates from Jesus to those gathered around!

We are so glad you are here to receive God's love today!

A warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. This morning you were greeted by Carrie & Lewis Unruh and Diane & Fred Unruh. *Please take time to fill out our friendship pad.* Come back & join us again soon.

Childcare is available during worship today.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- Kylee Unruh, who designed and created the bulletin cover.
- Ron Dirksen, who created and assembled the barn

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.

This Week

PASTOR'S ON VACATION

- Pastor Karen will be on vacation from December 24 - January 2.
- Pastor Doug will be on vacation from January 2 - 6.

Wednesday, January 2

No Wednesday evening activities.

Thursday, January 3

7:00 p.m.—Deacon's meeting at Jim Schmidt's home.

Saturday, January 5

7:00 a.m.—Men's Bible Study in Mark resumes!

9:00 a.m.—**LADIES/GIRLS CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST:** All Ladies are invited to a Christmas Breakfast in the fellowship hall (since it was cancelled on December 15 because of ice). Please sign up on the bulletin board if you have not already done so. If the number of people you signed up for earlier is different now, please change the number to the correct number. If you are unable to come, please cross out your name.

Next Sunday, January 6

NEXT SUNDAY is Epiphany Sunday. The theme is "*Gifts: The Wise Men.*" The texts are Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12 and Corey will be preaching. We will also be celebrating the gifts of bread and the cup at the Lord's Table, so be preparing yourselves to receive God's good gifts.

10:45 a.m.—Sunday School for everyone

Announcements

NEEDED: DEVOTIONALS FOR THE DEVOTIONAL BOOK! The devotionals are coming in, just like presents for Christmas. We have 8 now, but we need more!! Send any devotionals to: cmiller@tabormennonite.org.

ANNUAL REPORTS are due TODAY. Place in the secretary's mail box, or if possible, email your report to kfunk@tabormennonite.org.

WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE:

Conference Resource Library now open Thursday nights 'till 8: Beginning Thursday, January 10, the WDC Resource Library at 2517 N. Main in North Newton will be open until 8 p.m. on Thursdays. Curl up with a book and a fresh cup of coffee or tea. Hang out, meet new friends. Bring children and have a family story time or . . . schedule a committee meeting in the library lounge. Come on over, open and read!

Listening Circle begins at Western District Conference Resource Library: Looking for a place to explore theology and ask questions in a gentle environment? Come to an exploratory meeting of "The Listening Circle," a group for women of any age who want to learn together through study, sharing and listening carefully to one another. The meeting will convene at 7:30 pm in the Conference Resource Library on January 10, 2008. Please call convener June Thomsen (283-0106) or librarian Marlene Bogard (283- 6300) for more information. See you there!

EVERYONE INTERESTED IN AGRI-URBAN, and it's programs is invited to an appreciation dinner on January 19 at 6:00 p.m., in the Eden Mennonite Church Fellowship Hall, 4 miles west and 2 miles north of Moundridge, Kansas. Please make reservations with Van Schmidt at 367-3800 TODAY. An interesting program is planned.

INVITATION: Henry and Verda Wedel will be honored for their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, January 12, 2008 at the Goessel Mennonite Church, hosted by their children and families. A short program will be presented at 3:00 p.m. The gift of your presence is requested.

ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS:

WELCOME TO EDUCATION AT BETHEL. January 19, 8:30am. See poster on bulletin board. Brochures are on the table in the foyer.

GI Rights **TRAINING WORKSHOP**, Feb. 2-3, 2008 in Manhattan.

Western District Conference presents

"The Upside Down King"

"The Upside Down King" musical is a new, upbeat, fun, and powerful re-telling of the life and ministry of Jesus. This original musical, with script by Carol Duerksen and music by Doug & Jude Krehbiel (Road Less Travelled), features a five member young adult

cast, and a live classic rock and roots band.

Cast and Band members: Doug Krehbiel, Jason Peters, Ben Kliewer, Ted Krehbiel, Bethany Amstutz, Tonya Keim Bartel, Lowell Wyse, Bridget Kratzer, Jude Krehbiel.

Geared for youth and all ages, *"The Upside Down King"* focuses on the flipped-over aspects of Christ's life and teachings, including loving enemies, being servants, and going the second mile.

Seven presentations will be done throughout WDC in January, 2008 - choose one to attend!
Offerings will be received for WDC youth ministry.

Sunday, January 6, 6:30 p.m.

First Mennonite Church, Beatrice, NE

Saturday, January 12, 6:30 p.m.

First Mennonite Church, Hutchinson, KS

Sunday, January 13, 6:30 p.m.

Eden Mennonite Church, Moundridge, KS

Saturday, January 19, 4:00 p.m.

Peace Mennonite Church, Dallas, TX

Sunday, January 20, 6:30 p.m.

Grace Hill Mennonite Church, Whitewater, KS

Sunday, January 27, 6:00 p.m.

Grace Mennonite Church, Enid, OK

Wednesday, January 30, 7:00 p.m.

Hesston Mennonite Church, Hesston, KS

God's Peace Lived Out

What this planet needs is more mistletoe and less missile-talk.

- *unknown*