

March 2, 2008

Into New Sight

"One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." -John 9:25

Gathering

PRELUDE Adult Worship Team

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Worship Leader, Leann Toews

Leader: Do you see it? God's kingdom is right before our eyes.

People: We live in the new creation shaped by God out of our blindness.

Leader: Do you know it? God's reconciling love in Christ has shattered our ways of viewing people.

People: No longer do we label our sisters and brothers, we welcome them with open arms.

Leader: Do you believe it? God has made everything, including us, new, and sends us forth to share this good news with everyone!

All: We are ready to see God's work in the world!

PRAYING FOR GOD'S PRESENCE

*GATHERING OUR PRAISE *"Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing"* No. 110

Praising God

*GREETING EACH OTHER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pass the welcome pads

SONG *"We are the church"* Sonbeams

OFFERING OUR GIFTS IN WORSHIP

Coins collected for MCC Relief Sale Penny Challenge

CHILDREN'S STORY *I Samuel 16:1-13* Janna Duerksen

SPECIAL MUSIC *"The Silence and the Song"* Children of Light

Confessing Our Sins

CONFESSIONAL Back of Bulletin

SILENCE

SONG *"Open our eyes, Lord"* No. 66CS

AFFIRMING FAITH

Hearing Gods Word

THE STORY OF JOHN 9 *"Out of the Darkness"* Corey Miller

SONG OF FAITH *"From Ashes to the Living Fount"* No. 149CS

COMMUNION

Leader: This is the Lord's table. We do not come here trusting in our own goodness or virtue.

People: We come knowing we need forgiveness and trusting God to grant it.

Leader: We come because we are hungry for meaning and need to be fed.

People: We come because we are blind and need to have our eyes opened.

Leader: We come because Jesus Christ invites us as his guests to the heavenly banquet.

People: We come to remember the sacrifice that Christ made for us, so we can also identify with those who suffer.

All: We expect to experience Christ's transforming power in and through these signs. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

*SENDING SONG *"Savior, like a shepherd lead us"* No. 355

*BENEDICTION *Ephesians 5:8-14*

POSTLUDE

Today

We are well into our Lenten journey into the wilderness. Are we becoming more aware of our temptations, our frailties, our sin? Jesus opened the eyes of the blind man, and he offers to open our eyes to the abundant grace of God which encompasses us. Do we have eyes that see what Jesus sees?

As a faithful response to God's word today, we invite all believers in Jesus Christ, who earnestly follow Christ and are committed to his church, to come forward for communion. As you eat and drink, may your eyes be opened to see God's love and forgiveness for you.

We invite the children to come forward as well that they may receive a blessing and know God's love. There will be prayers of anointing offered as well to anyone who wants to experience God's healing or blessing.

We welcome all of you to our time of worship!

This morning you were greeted by Russ, Sharleen & Tristian Francis and Pete & Sharon Unruh. *Please take time to fill out our friendship pads.* Come back and join us again.

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.

GOESSEL AREA JR HI Roller Skating Party - Meet at Goessel Mennonite Church at 3:00 to go to Hutchinson and bring \$6.25. We need volunteer drivers and will return at 7:00 p.m. Call Delton and Janice Voth @ 367-8152 with any questions.

This Week

Tuesday, March 4

7:30 p.m.—Trustee Meeting

Wednesday, March 5

6:00 p.m.—Wednesday Evening Activities

Saturday, March 8

7:00 a.m.—Men's Bible Study on Mark 16.

Next Sunday, March 9

NEXT SUNDAY is the fifth Sunday in Lent. The focus of the morning will be *"Into new Life."* The texts are Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, and John 11:1-45 and Corey will be preaching.

10:45 a.m.—Sunday School for everyone. All college-age people are invited to Les and Cynthia Goerzen's home after the church service for devotions and visiting, followed by lunch.

Day light savings time. Please remember to turn your clocks AHEAD one hour for next Sunday's worship.

WESTERN DISTRICT CHILDREN'S CHOIR FESTIVAL: members of Tabor's Children of Light Choir will participate in this concert on Sunday, March 9 at 4 p.m. in Memorial Hall on Bethel College campus. All are invited.

Announcements

THANKS

Dear Tabor Family, I often say that in Tabor I have found family and community. Again, that has been so true as I have recovered from knee reconstruction and replacement. Visits, cards, food and prayers have formed a caring circle to help me through pain and therapy toward recovery. Thank you for all your acts of care and love. -Elaine Schroeder

I would like to express my extreme gratitude for the care package I received this past week. I miss my Tabor family, and the care package was a great reminder of the love and prayerful support that is waiting for me at home. The care package also presented me with a unique ministry opportunity. My friends and I *love* getting mail, and we check it after dinner every day hoping that we have received something. After seeing the package I received from Tabor, a close, non-Christian friend of mine asked about the Mennonite faith and I was able to share with him. I feel like God provided a special outreach from Tabor to my friend. So once again, thank you so much for the care package!! -Janessa Wedel, Kansas State U.

COLLEGE STUDENT PRAYER SUPPORT for this spring semester - take a card off the board in the foyer and you will find the student's college & contact info on the card. Thank you for being a part of the caring connection for students!

DEVOTIONALS DEADLINE! I'm giving everyone one more week of grace before we bring an end to the Centennial Devotional. We are getting close to 50 by now and I am thrilled. We still could use some more, so go ahead and get them in! Send them to Corey at: cmiller@tabormennonite.org or place in Corey's box.

JOYFUL NOISE will be serving the Wednesday Night Meal on March 12. If you can help by providing any food items, please sign up on the back bulletin board. We look forward to seeing you there!

ALL LADIES are invited to attend the annual SPRING SUNSET SUPPER on Thursday, March 13 at the Eden Mennonite Church. The theme is "Days of the Dust Bowl". Supper is at 6:00 p.m. (cost is \$5.00 per person) followed by a program featuring round table sharing from women who experienced the Dust Bowl. An offering will be taken for Mennonite Women USA. Reservations are required by March 3. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you wish to attend. Contact Norma Graber if you need a ride and want to car pool.

IT'S WDC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT TIME AGAIN. If you are interested in playing contact Ben Schmidt by March 10 at benjaminjschmidt@hotmail.com or 620-386-4315. Tournament dates are March 31-April 5 & is held at Bethel College.

COMFORTER BLITZ sponsored by Kansas Friends of MCC. If you can tie a knot, come and help with the Comforter Blitz, Monday, March 3, 12 noon - 9pm and Tuesday, March 4, 9am - 5pm at the South Hutchinson Mennonite Church - Yoder Campus (formerly Yoder Mennonite Church). If anyone is needing a ride and wanting to car pool, let Norma Graber know.

HEALTH ADVOCACY DAY, March 12, State Capital Building in Topeka. *WDC urges you to add your voice to these critical issues. See Tabor's March newsletter for complete details.*

ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS:

- * **WOMEN IN CONVERSATION**, April 18-20 at Wichita Airport Hilton. Register by March 1 for \$10 discount. Sponsored by Mennonite Church USA.
- * Celebrate women on Sat, March 8 at **TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES** in Newton during International Women's Day. See bulletin board for details.
- * **PEACE CONNECTIONS**: workshop on issues related to poverty March 10 at McKinley Administrations Center. Details are posted.
- * *Sweet Adelines* in concert March 15, 6:30 pm at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church. Proceeds benefit the **MENNONITE HERITAGE MUSEUM**.
- * **JOB OPENING**: Newton EtCetera Shop. Details are posted.

KANSAS MENNONITE RELIEF SALE:

April 11 & 12, 2008 - Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, Kansas

>>Last Sunday's **CHILDREN'S COIN OFFERING** totaled \$81.46. AWESOME!!! Hear the cans ring as you empty your pockets this morning!

>>REMEMBER TO GET YOUR NAME ON A **SIGNUP SHEET** on the MCC Sale Table in the Foyer.

>>Plan to run or walk the **5K RUN FOR RELIEF**. Pick up the Green Entry Forms on the MCC Table in the foyer. We like to encourage EVERYONE to be involved as a runner or a sponsor. Every dollar counts toward the total.

>>List your quilt in the **QUILT AUCTION BUYER'S GUIDE**. Quilts and quilt related items should be given to contact persons before March 7, or taken to the MCC Center in North Newton by March 27. Starting in mid-March, quilts will be displayed on the sale website: www.kansas.mccsale.org/. *Tabor projects are displayed in the fellowship hall this morning.*

>>Today is **KANSAS MENNONITE RELIEF SALE FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY**. We have visitors in our worship service today who are guests of our families. These fellowship meals help to build a bond between our congregations and other Mennonite, Amish and Brethren in Christ churches supporting the relief sale. Tabor is having a MCC Fellowship Meal in the basement TODAY with 40 who have signed up. THANKS!!

>>It is NOT too late to start a **WOOD AND METAL PROJECT**. It is NOT too late to be transplanting and starting seeds for "**PLANTS AND THINGS**".

NOTES OF INTEREST:

>>Five Star General President Eisenhower said that every gun that is made, and every warship launched is a theft from those who hunger and are not fed. BUT at the Relief Sale, EVERYTHING is a gift; EVERY stitch in a quilt; EVERY stroke of sandpaper on a piece of wood; EVERY pie that is baked; EVERY hand that is raised to make a bid; EVERY name on a signup sheet. EACH is a gift to God's children EVERYWHERE who struggle and yearn for the abundant, fulfilling life their Creator intended for them.

>>Numerous small contributions to the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale have resulted in large amounts used to assist needy people in many ways. *This year's Penny Power collection before and during the sale will support MCC Food Basket Projects promoting Food for Today, for Tomorrow and for All. Let us remember the families in Haiti that can only provide their children with one meal a day or the 1 in 10 U.S. households that doesn't always know if they will have food for their next meal.* The Penny Power project at the Kansas Sale raised a little over \$26,900 last year. Let us help end hunger through our spare change. The Penny Power Challenge goal for 2008 is \$40,000.

Peace, lived out in us.

Live as children of the light - for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.... Everything that is exposed by the light becomes visible.

- *St. Paul, Ephesians*