

Oct. 12, 2008

Centennial Celebration
Celebrating the Past ~ Embracing the Future

“ . . . as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” -Joshua 24:10

Gathering to Worship

PRELUDE Jerry Toews, Deloris Schmidt
WELCOME Worship Leader, Pastor Corey Miller
CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 100
Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.
Worship the LORD with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.
People: Know that the LORD is God.
It is he that made us, and we are his!
We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, bless his name.
People: For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever.
All: And his faithfulness to all generations!

Praising God for the Past

*SINGING OUR PRAISE *“Holy God, we praise thy name”* No. 8CS
v. 1 in German, vv. 1-4 English
Organist: Cynthia Goerzen

*PRAYING FOR GOD’S PRESENCE

*SINGING OUR PRAISE *“Christ is our cornerstone”* No. 43
Brass: Peter Goerzen and Sara Unruh

*GREETING EACH OTHER AND INTRODUCTIONS

WORDS OF WELCOME

Dorothy Nickel Friesen, Western District Conference Minister
Lee Suderman, Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church Pastor
Vinola (Schroeder) Banman, Faith Mennonite Church Charter Member

OFFERING OUR GIFTS IN WORSHIP

“How firm a foundation” Diane and Michelle Unruh

CHILDREN’S STORY Pastor Ray Hurst

SPECIAL MUSIC *“God’s Faithful Shepherds”* Adult and Children’s Choir
-Douglas E. Wagner Directors: Marcene Entz
Barb Banman

Children dismissed at this time

CENTENNIAL LITANY Insert

*SONG OF PRAISE *“My soul is filled with joy”* Insert
Led by Adult Worship Team

Hearing God's Word

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| HEARING THE OLD TESTAMENT STORY | <i>Joshua 24</i> | Jason Unruh |
| <i>And the people said to Joshua, "We will serve the Lord, for he is our God."</i> | | |
| SERMON | <i>"Mottos of the Church"</i> | Pastor James Schrag |
| SPECIAL MUSIC | <i>"We Will Serve the Lord"</i> -Larry Nickel | Adult Choir Soloist: Emil Schmidt |
| SERMON | <i>"Into the Future with God's Promises and Ours"</i> | Pastor Brenda Martin Hurst |

Responding to God's Word

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| SONG OF FAITH | <i>"Oh God, our help in ages past"</i> | No. 328 |
| COMMUNION | Music: Doug and Jude Krehbiel, Rollin Schmidt | |
| SPECIAL MUSIC | <i>"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"</i> -arr. Mark Hayes | Adult Choir |
| SILENT PRAISE | | |
| CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER | | Pastor Karen Andres |

Sent Into the Future

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|---------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| *SONG OF HOPE | <i>"Praise God from whom"</i> | No. 118 |
| *BENEDICTION | | |
| POSTLUDE | <i>"God of grace"</i> -arr. Paul Manz | Karen Andres |

Today

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised! Today, Tabor Mennonite Church celebrates its one hundredth anniversary. We have been so blessed throughout these years as a part of Christ's church in our world and today we humbly give thanks to God for our past and we joyfully look forward to our future.

We are delighted that you have come to worship with us this morning. Welcome home and we pray that you will experience God's celebrative love with us this morning!

We will be serving communion today to all adult believers in Christ. Every adult will be given a special handkerchief on which to place the bread and when the cup is passed, we invite you to offer "the nod" to your neighbor.

This morning you were greeted by Paul & Norma Graber and Brad & Sara Hiebert. *Visitors and guests please sign the guest book in the foyer.* Come back and join us again.

Childcare is provided by Kristi Unruh in the nursery during worship. Children ages 2-6 will be dismissed to room 13 in the basement after the adult and children's choir number.

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.

Special thanks to the centennial committee, Ilona Abrahams, chr., Bill Voth, Darlene Schroeder, Bonnie Heinrichs, John Goerzen and the many, many volunteers who made this weekend possible.

Noon: Everyone is welcome to the potluck meal in the fellowship hall.
- *Table service will be provided for you.*

Following the meal: opening of Tabor Church cornerstone.
Homing pigeons will be released to conclude our weekend of celebrations.

Notes of congratulations can be found on the bulletin board.

Exhibits in rooms 111-112 will remain open for 45 minutes following the service.

Tabor's centennial book, "Living our Heritage" can be purchased for \$15 following today's service.

If you would like a commemorative t-shirt or tote bag from this weekend's celebration, contact Diana Schmidt or Carrie Unruh. A few shirts and bags are still available. Another order will be placed as needed.

If you wish to visit the cemetery, the new directory with alphabetical listing of grave sights has been completed. Thanks to Hildred Schmidt for the newly updated and expanded cemetery record book which can be found today with the centennial displays.

The devotional booklet is finished! Each member/attender will find a booklet in their mailbox. Extras will be available this weekend. If you would like additional books, please contact the church office.

This Week

Tuesday, October 14

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

Wednesday, October 15

5:30 - 6:00p.m.—Adult Bible Study

6:00 - 6:45p.m.—Supper for Everyone, cleanup after.

Joyful Noise Community Child Care will be serving the meal. If you can help by providing any food items, please sign up on the bulletin board. We look forward to seeing you there!

6:30 - 7:00p.m.—Sonbeams

6:30 - 7:15p.m.—Children of Light

7:00 - 8:00p.m.—Faith Friends, TMYF, Spanish Class

7:15 - 8:15p.m.—Faith Adventure, Youth Explorers, Worship Team

8:00 - 9:00p.m.— Adult Choir.

Next Sunday, October 19

9:30 a.m.—NEXT SUNDAY we will continue our "Practicing our Faith" series and the focus will be on Discipleship and Spirituality. The texts are John 15:5-8, I Peter 3:8-18, Micah 6:8 and Pastor Karen will be preaching.

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

Mentors and youth: come party at Maynard and Carol's at noon on Oct. 19. Food and fun is on tap, so plan to be there. Sign up on the bulletin board TODAY.

Announcements

Commitment Sheets: We invite you to prayerfully consider in what areas you will offer your gifts next year here at Tabor. We will receive your commitments on Sunday, November 2 during the worship.

Discernment: The Gift Discernment Committee will be visiting with Bill Froese on Tuesday night to pray about the ministry of deacon. The committee asks that you pray for us all as we discern God's call at this time for Bill and for the deacon position. If you have any feedback you would want to share, please talk to Bill or any members of the committee, Barb Banman, Ron Schroeder, Leona Brandt or Angie Duerksen.

EtCetra Shop Work Night: Anyone is welcome to join the Willing Helpers for a work evening at the EtCetra Shop in Newton on Monday evening, October 20 from 7:00 to 9:00 to help with sorting and pricing items. Please sign up on the bulletin board so EtCetra has an idea of how many are coming to help.

The MCC Meat Canner will be at the MCC Center in North Newton October 27 through November 4. Volunteers are needed to can 80,000 pounds of turkey and 8,000 pounds of pork. New this year is a quiet room for reading and learning about MCC's meat canning program. All are welcome to use this space, especially people who are not physically able to help with meat canning, to be in prayer and meditation for the work, the young men who travel with the canner, and for the many ways we are blessed. Money is still needed to purchase sows for processing. Please designate your gift "Newton Meat Canner" and send checks to MCC Central States, PO Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117. Contact Maynard Knepp with questions at 316.283.2720.

Tabor has been asked to fill ten spots on November 3 & 4. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board to help. A can for your donations for local canner expenses has been placed on the table in the foyer. Please make these checks payable to Tabor Mennonite Church.

CROP Walk: The final numbers are in. Goessel walkers raised \$6.812 on the September 21 walk.

AGAPE Senior Center:

>October 16, 6pm potluck meal. 7pm Maynard Knepp will speak on Mennonite churches in the Ukraine today and MCC. An offering will be taken.

>October 18, 7:30-9 am: the AGAPE Senior Center will be serving a breakfast of juice, pancakes, sausage, eggs and coffee. This is a fund raiser and cost is by donation. We need your support. Everyone is welcome!

The Hesston College Music Department invites all community singers (high school and above) to join the Hesston College choirs in presenting our annual Thanksgiving Masterworks Concert. The concert will be held November 27 at 8 p.m. Rehearsals will be held Monday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m., beginning October 27, in Hesston College's Northlawn building. Call 620-327-8141 to reserve a score.

On the Bulletin Boards

- * Peace Connections October events.
- * KIPCOR Peace Lecture Oct. 23, Krehbiel Auditorium, Bethel College
- * Western District Conference hymn sing along with an evening of music and storytelling with Jonathan Larson, Sunday, October 26, 7 p.m. at Bethel College Mennonite Church. See poster.

Peace, lived out in us.

"We have hope, not that the events of the world will turn out "right," but that God is who God claims to be. We plant seeds of peace and justice for our children, believing they will grow strong whether we live to see them bear fruit or not. Our belief in the unexpected resurrection gives us the courage to face our unknown tomorrows. Our legacy is the faith of our martyrs' and the promise that God is in charge. We are fools for Christ, hoping against hope."
unknown

Centennial Litany

Leader: As we here at Tabor Mennonite Church celebrate our hundred years together, we give Thanksgiving and praise to God who has so richly blessed our congregation.

Leader: We remember those women and men who immigrated to this Kansas prairie from the steppes of the Ukraine. They came to practice their Anabaptist faith and live as people of peace. We welcome those persons throughout the years whose faith traditions differ, but who have found a home here at Tabor.

People: We give you thanks O God.

Leader: We acknowledge our parent church, Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, and celebrate our continued close fraternal relationship with them. We are also reminded of our spiritual ties to Faith Mennonite, our daughter congregation.

People: We give you thanks O God.

Leader: We realize that no congregation can exist in isolation. Today we want to recognize and affirm Western District Conference and Mennonite Church USA as our greater community of faith. Knowing that other churches in the Mennonite denomination share our same tenets of faith is reassuring and empowering.

People: We give you thanks O God.

Leader: We are grateful for Christian rituals: baptism, communion and marriage. Through these religious traditions, Taborites have shared their faith stories, dedicated their lives to service at home and away, and prayed for Christ like relationships with each other. As people of God, we have practiced our hospitality in numerous ways, from giving food from our pantry to feeding the hungry through MCC.

People: We give you thanks O God.

Leader: We are thankful for the children and youth, whose laughter and tears give life and new meaning to our congregation. We thank God for those elders who live among us, sharing their long-lived wisdom. We honor and celebrate all those who have died in this past century. They are the saints who went before us and their presence enriched our lives.

People: We give you thanks O God.

Leader: We hold dear Tabor's unique ability to nurture young ministers who transition from seminary to first time pastorates. We treasure Tabor's history of strong pastors and lay persons who have held the principles of Peace and Justice as central to Mennonite theology and practice. We recognize the shared gifts of music, drama, art, teaching, preaching, cooking, caring, cleaning, fixing that have helped mold us as a community of faith.

People: We give you thanks O God.

Leader: We look forward to the next 100 years. As we look back, we thank God for courage through our trials, and joy and blessing for our triumphs. We anticipate a future of helping heal a broken world, of sharing our strong ideals of peace and justice with all humankind, and of reaching out to those persons who would welcome the message of God's hospitality, healing and hope.

ALL: We pray for grace to creatively face the challenges that lie ahead. We are privileged to share the story of Christ's love and ask for the Holy Spirit to guide this congregation into the next century. We give you thanks O God. Amen.

Written by Leann Toews for the Tabor Mennonite Church Centennial,
October, 2008

*But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you,
then choose for yourself this day whom you will serve.*

*But as for me and my household,
we will serve the Lord.*

- Joshua 24:15