



Tabor Church News

November, 2010

ōA Closer Look at Thanksgivingö

“O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.”

—Psalm 107:1

Worship Themes

- Nov. 7** - *Praying with Paul:*
“Enlightened Hearts”
 -Ephesians 1:15-19
 -Corey preaching
- Nov. 14** - *Praying with Paul:*
“Our Theology of Youth Ministry”
 -Ephesians 4:12
 -Doug preaching
- Nov. 21** - *Praying with Paul:*
“Harvest of Righteousness”
 -Philippians 1:3-11
 -Karen preaching
- Nov. 24** - *“Prayers of Thanksgiving”*
 -I Corinthians 1:4-9, Psalm 126,
 I Timothy 2:1-7, Matthew 6:25-33
 -Pastors leading
- Nov. 28** - *“Wake from Sleep!” Advent 1*
 -Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122,
 Romans 13:11-14,
 Matthew 24:36-44
 -Corey preaching

The season of Thanksgiving is an opportunity to look beneath our external lives and be grateful for the strength, peace, and love that comes from our God who gives us life. I share a portion of this reading to remind us that beneath every struggle, there is something to be thankful for.

If you look at a sunset, you might see only the disappearance of daylight. If you look beneath, you may see darkness opening the splendor of stars.

If you look at illness and disease, you might see only physical diminishment. If you look beneath, you may see it as a teacher bringing you vital wisdom.

If you look at a broken relationship, you might see only a harsh ending. If you look beneath, you may see the courageous seeds of new growth.

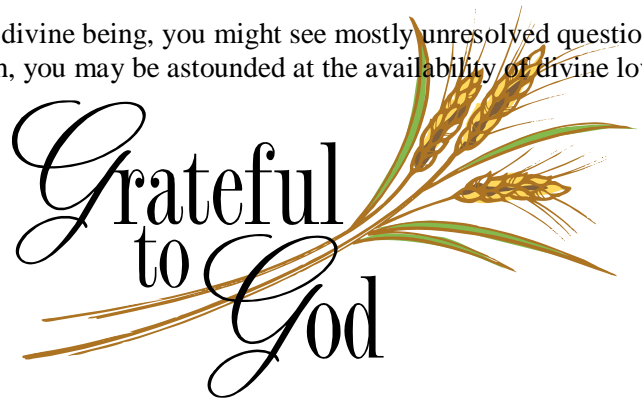
If you look at lost dreams, you might see only disappointment and doubt. If you look beneath, you may see the stuff that new dreams contain.

If you look at the death of a loved one, you might see only pervasive sorrow. If you look beneath, you may see that love lives on forever in the heart.

If you look at yourself, you might see only tarnished unfinishedness. If you look beneath, you may see your basic goodness shining there.

If you look for the divine being, you might see mostly unresolved questions. If you look beneath, you may be astounded at the availability of divine love.

-Pastor Karen



Thanksgiving Thoughts

Our forefathers were not so much thankful for something as they were thankful in something.

In bounty or in famine they were thankful.

In joy or in misery, they were thankful.

There is a big difference between being thankful for things and being thankful in things.

- Brett Blair
via Apple Seeds

Advent/Christmas Projects

This year, our special Advent offering project will be School Kits, which is the most requested item from Mennonite Central Committee. Notebooks and pencils become treasures to families who struggle to afford basic school supplies. School kits are also given to refugee and displaced children, helping students and teachers add some normalcy to disrupted lives. They are frequently requested after natural disasters. MCC sends school kits to places including Iraq, Nicaragua, North Korea and to poorly funded schools in Canada and the United States.



We will be receiving items during worship services throughout Advent.

- ◆ November 28
 - 4 spiral or perforated notebooks (about 21.5cm x 27cm / 8.5in x 10.5in and 70-80 sheets)
- ◆ December 5
 - 4 unsharpened pencils
- ◆ December 12
 - 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- ◆ December 19
 - 1 large pencil eraser,
 - 1 ruler (flat, flexible plastic; indicating both 30cm and 12in)

School kits are distributed in a useful double drawstring cloth bag and MCC has many bags that we can use.

Consider purchasing these items as a family and teach your children the joy of giving this year at Christmas.



Photos: MCC website

Spotlight on Tabor's Young Adults

Over a year ago I took a job with Interfaith Housing Services which required me to move to western Kansas. My job consisted of going to low to moderate income households and performing an energy audit on their house. This included testing their furnace, checking insulation levels in the home, and finding air leaks. I then ordered work to be done on their home to make it more energy efficient, thus saving them money on their utility bills. In many cases the clients were on fixed income and were having to choose between turning on their furnace or buying groceries. In other cases their furnace was putting out a high level of carbon monoxide and was making them sick. I learned over the months that God has created many different types of people, and getting along with some is not always an easy task. I loved helping people that were in need, but recently I decided that my time in western Kansas was done. I have moved back to North Newton and am working for Voth Construction again. I am also looking into going back to school. Tabor Church has always felt like home and I am looking forward to plugging-in to this faith family again.



Ben, right, at Camp Mennoscah

ô Ben Schmidt

Caring Group Celebration

Caring Group Ministry had their annual potluck on October 24. Five groups were represented and the food was amazing. People shared how their group had been a meaningful part of their lives in the past year. Groups were encouraged to set goals for the coming year in terms of a service event as well as finding ways to share more deeply with one another. Groups have been involved in ministries such as providing meals for the homeless shelter and Wed. nights. Two groups have included members who do not attend Tabor Church. Of course, groups also plan fun things such as the newlywed game, a "hot tub" outing (really?), and going to Papa's Pumpkin Patch. What is evident is the support individuals feel from being part of a group. As one member put it, "If I miss one month, it feels as though something is missing." We thank God for these connections. If you are interested in starting a caring group, speak with Pastor Karen or Carol Duerksen, caring group deacon.

TMYF News

The Tabor TMYF youth group got off to a great start this month beginning with 2 uplifting bible studies around the campfire at Austin's. We watched 'Remember the Titans' (movie in the barn), a lesson on acceptance and welcoming the "strangers" in your community. We went to Hesston College Aviation and rode in Cessnas (small four-seater airplanes), ate pizza, and had a paper airplane contest. We also packaged 250 school kits at the MCC center and heard about when Warehouse Coordinator Irma Gonzales received a school kit as a child and the powerful impression that made on her. She said that she had been so thankful she wanted to pay it forward. We had tons of fun at the corn maze in Buhler as well. This year we want to make it a point to reach out to people and invite them to TMYF.

—Jessie Perry, TMYF Reporter

Rev. H.B. Schmidt: Program November 7



During World War I the United States passed a Selective Service Law. The first peace time draft law was enacted on September 16, 1940 in anticipation of World War II. More than 10,000,000 men between the ages of 18 and 37 were drafted. During that same time Rev. H.B. Schmidt was being called to fill various positions at Tabor Mennonite Church. In October of 1944 he was ordained as Jr. Elder. At that same time the aging P. H. Richert

asked him to take over his peace counseling responsibilities. Thus began one of the greatest ministries of H. B. Schmidt's life in the area of peace work. He embraced this ministry with tremendous energy, enthusiasm and dedication.

You are invited to Tabor Church on the 7th of November for a program that will recognize H. B. Schmidt's contributions in peace ministries. The program begins at 2:30pm and ends with faspas at 4:00pm.

Tabor Annual Meeting 6 November 14

What happens at Tabor's annual November meeting? We gather all the narrative requests that have been offered and propose a spending plan for the new year ahead! Is this exciting? Obviously not for everyone. Is this important? Absolutely. Do you want to feel more ownership and connectedness to this process and to our discernment as to what God wants us to do at Tabor? Then come on out and enjoy a wonderful Fundraising Meal by the Mennonite College Task Force. The meeting will begin at 12:45pm.

Family Thanksgiving Service 6 November 24

On Wednesday night, November 24, we will be offering a wonderful Thanksgiving meal and worship service in the Tabor Fellowship hall. The meal will begin at 6:00pm followed by a special worship service at 7:00pm. We hope to have special music, thanksgiving testimonies and activities for the children. This event will take the place of any regularly scheduled events this night. We will have an offering for our friends at New Jerusalem Mennonite Church in Pasadena, Texas. Come on out, bring family who are here for Thanksgiving weekend and enjoy a cozy evening with our Tabor family.

Homeless Shelter Ministry 6 November 17-23

The next opportunity to serve at the Homeless Shelter in Newton will be November 17-23. If you are interested in volunteering and have not had training yet, the remaining training sessions are November 9 at 6:30pm and November 18 at 6:30pm. On the week of November 17-23, we will have opportunity to bring supper and serve the food as well as take some evening and overnight shifts. This is a ministry that is growing on us and we invite you to consider experiencing this ministry.

TABOR MENNONITE MEN CHICKEN BARBECUE

Thursday, November 4
5 to 7 p.m.

Come out for a great meal



More College Age Young Adult Updates

Students:

Freshmen:

Hayden Goerzen at Hesston College

Seniors:

Sheldon Goerzen at Wichita State U.

Brett Goerzen at Friends University

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Jeff & Bil Keane



"I wish the Pilgrims had sent out for PIZZA on the first Thanksgiving 'stead of shootin' a turkey."

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

October 27, 2010

Dear Friends of the Harvey County Homeless Shelter:

We have had a very busy time at the Harvey County Homeless Shelter the past few months. It is always exciting to see lots of new faces volunteering and helping the needy in our community! We have several new church teams who have come on the schedule during the past couple rotations. We have upgraded the family room and women quarters laundry facilities and are in the midst of a major kitchen renovation project, all funded by a grant from the Schowalter Foundation. We recently had an exciting "reunion" where former residents came back to share a meal with us and tell their success stories and to talk about how they see God working in their lives. There is a lot of energy and enthusiasm for the mission and operation of HCHS in our staff, board, volunteers, and from everyone in the community who is so generous in supporting us!

We are committed to help share the love of Christ with the less fortunate in our community in many different ways - a bed to sleep in, a good meal to eat, access to health care and professional services, and the list continues. The operations of the Harvey County Homeless Shelter are 100% community funded, by churches, businesses and individuals - like YOU! We need your help in order to keep providing essential services to members of our community who have nowhere else to turn. We know many of you volunteer many, many hours in service to the shelter, but we find ourselves in the position of needing to ask for your financial support at this time as well. We need your help in continuing to fulfill our mission "To show the love of Jesus to those in need of secure, temporary shelter and a hand up, by providing physical, emotional and spiritual support." Please help us help the most underprivileged members of our community?

Thank you again for the care, love, prayer and support you so often give to those at HCHS!

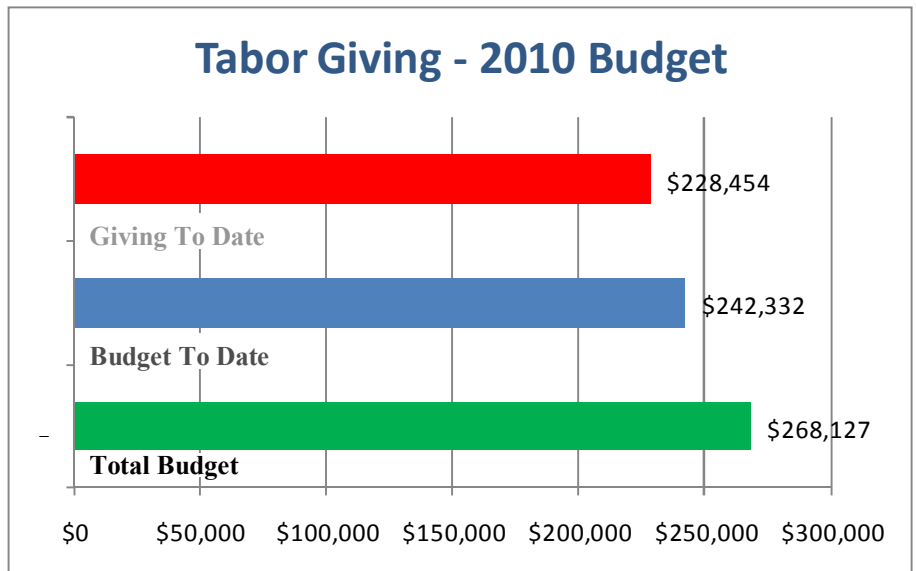
Sincerely,

Members of the HCHS, Inc. Board of Directors: *Tim Buller, Christa Jahay, Lee Penner, Paul Blythe, Gary Franz, Gary Hawkey, Harold Schorn, Maeanna Regier, Vernon Klingenberg, Carol Goering and Sue Schmidt*

Ministries of Tabor Mennonite Church

We've made great progress in meeting budget, but our work is not finished. Reaching or exceeding our budget this year is important as organizations benefitting from our benevolent gifts need our support in these difficult economic times. Additionally, our Trustee cash reserves need to be replenished in order to keep the lights on and the bills paid. Giving of your talents as well as your financial wealth in whatever ways you can are extremely important to carrying out God's mission through our church.

God has blessed our congregation. Let's work together to meet / exceed this budget and do great things at Tabor.



Stewardship Poem

The Lord is my Banker. I shall not want.
 He maketh me to lay down my dollars to the needy.
 He leadeth me to give of my time, talent and money.
 He restoreth my flagging generosity.
 He leadeth me into the path of capital fundraisers for His name's sake.
 Yea, though I give freely to the Unquenchable Fire,
 I will fear no loss; for Thou art my advisor.
 Thy promise of future returns comforts me.
 Thou prepares a safer place for my treasures than today's insured institutions can provide.
 Though my purse seemeth empty,
 Thou still pleadest before me the case of the hungry.
 Though wealth may evade me all the days of my life,
 Surely in Heaven I will draw on the Bank of the Lord forever.

- Author Unknown

NOVEMBER

TABOR CHURCH CALENDAR

	1 1 pm Work at MCC Center 7pm Budget Task Force	2 12 pm Hesston Lunch Bunch 7pm Education Comm. 7:30 pm Trustee Mtg	3 Wednesday Evening Activities	4 5-7pm Chicken BBQ	5	6
7 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Sunday School 2:30pm HB Schmidt program	8	9	10 Wednesday Evening Activities	11 12 pm Newton Lunch Bunch	12	13
14 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Sunday School 12:45 Fundraiser Meal Annual Meeting	15 7pm Willing Helpers	16 7:00 p.m. Worship Fellowship Mtg	17 Wednesday Evening Activities	18	19	20
21 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Sunday School	22 <i>Newsletter Items Due</i>	23	24 Thanksgiving at Tabor 6:pm-Meal 7pm-Service	25  Thanksgiving Day	26	27
28 <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Sunday School	29	30 12 pm Goessel/ Peabody/Walton Lunch Bunch				

← Volunteering at Hwy. Co. Homeless Shelter

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2 - Daniel Unruh
Evan Young | 14 - Bill Unruh |
| 4 - Bonnie Gleason
Nadine Cressman
Levi Sawatzky | 15 - Kathy Voth |
| 5 - Sara Jantz
Wyatt Sommerfeld | 16 - Brent Abrahams
Darla Funk
Wyatt Duerksen
Hunter Graber |
| 6 - Kathy Schmidt
Aaron Banman | 17 - Logan Duerksen
Richard Drake |
| 7 - Brandy Ashley | 18 - Patty Seibel |
| 8 - Dorothy Unruh
Anna Sawatzky | 19 - Keith Banman
Mark Voth
Brandon Unruh
Ron Schroeder |
| 9 - Pete Unruh | 20 - Eli Young |
| 10 - Dorothy Schmidt
Ilona Abrahams | 23 - Melvin Franzen
Travis Buller |
| 12 - Jon Buller | 24 - Bertha Nickel |
| 13 - Milt Goerzen
Elma Goertz
Karen Unruh | 29 - Phyllis Goertzen |

ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | |
|---|--------------|---------|
| Francisco Mendoza & Annaken Mendoza Toews | November 3, | 3 yrs. |
| Chris Ingram & Naomi Goertz | November 6, | 17 yrs. |
| Doyle & Nancy Franzen | November 7, | 29 yrs. |
| Jim & Kathy Wills | November 8, | 7 yrs. |
| Daryl & Brenda Cress | November 9, | 19 yrs. |
| Shannon & Carrie Friesen | November 11, | 10 yrs. |
| Kevin & Cindy Jantzen | November 11, | 21 yrs. |
| Tim O'Leary & Lois Voth | November 12, | 27 yrs. |
| Loren & Leona Brandt | November 19, | 51 yrs. |
| Van & Brenda Schmidt | November 21, | 6 yrs. |
| Ron & Marnette Hatchett | November 28, | 46 yrs. |



Bulletin Announcements due 8 a.m. Thursday mornings.