



Jr. High attend "Know Jesus"

Tabor Church News

March, 2011

ōThe Golden Ruleö

"In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you."

– Matthew 7:12

Worship Themes

March 6 - "Transfiguration"

Communion - Exodus 24, Psalm 2, II Peter 1:16-21, Matthew 17:1-9
-Corey preaching

March 13 - "Shaped by Testing" Lent 1

-Genesis 2:15-17;3:1-7, Psalm 32, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11
. Karen preaching

March 20 - "Shaped by New Birth" Lent 2

Genesis 12:1-4, Psalm 121, Romans 4:1-5, John 3:1-17
-Corey preaching

March 27 - "Shaped through Thirst" Lent 3

-Youth Sunday" Lent 3
Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 95, Romans.5, John 4 -Youth leading

As a rule of thumb, this article needs to be about 300 words or less. If I disregard this öruleö, (which I have in the past), the front page of the news-letter gets all messed up and there could be trouble with the editor (Kim!).

Rules do have a place in our lives. Rules help us to drive safely, have faithful marriages, take tests fairly and live together in community in relative peace and tranquility. Even though we have sometimes balked at the rules and even though rules need to be updated (or even ousted), they have, for the most part, been helpful to our lives and the lives of our neighbors.

Jesus suggested one örule of thumbö to his disciples, öIn everything do to others as you would have them do to you.ö (Mt. 7:12). This Golden Rule requires thinking, for one has to think how they truly want to be treated. When we figure out how we want to be treated, we are then better prepared to act toward others in healthy ways. The logic seems simple: If we want respect, then weöll show respect to others. If we want encouragement, then weöll encourage others. If we want people to hold us accountable with tough love, then weöll offer that to others. Jesus knew that if we could place ourselves in another personø position, there was a good possibility that positive actions would follow.

Much of the problems in the world stem from forgetting this rule. We sometimes treat others in ways that we would never want to be treated. I donø know of anyone who wants to be oppressed, hated, despised, bullied, or put down, either with words or actions and yet we treat others with this kind of contempt. At Tabor, as we desire to build community in the midst of challenging and changing times, we would do well to remember this Rule and continually ask God to help us live it out. Maybe you can think of a Golden Rule story that brought joy, healing or hope to you or others?



Kansas MCC Relief Sale

April 8 & 9

Kansas State Fairground
Hutchinson

Make plans to attend!

Make plans to volunteer!

Make plans to donate!

ö Pastor Corey



Making a Difference: Your Offerings at Work

Children are eager to learn.

When we bring them together in a cheerful and friendly classroom on Sunday mornings we are opening doors for Bible stories to be learned, friendships to be formed and experiences which are faith forming.

Tabor has 39 children in Sunday school classes (Wee Wonder-Grade 8). Just \$7.95 of your Sunday morning offerings will buy one Sunday school student book filled with Bible stories, colorful pictures and activities to reinforce the lessons. Less than \$10 for a product that will last a lifetime!

Thank you for your gifts.



One Student Book: \$ 7.95
 One Teachers Book: \$9.95
 One Classroom Pack: \$21.95
 One Child Learning Bible Stories: Priceless

Lent



ōBecoming Human: Called and Shaped by Jesusö

Lent is the season of 40 days in the church year in which we focus particular attention on foundational questions of our existence. This Lent season, we are all invited to think about what it means to be created and recreated in the image of God? Becoming authentically human is first and foremost a God activity. It is impossible to speak of what it means to be human apart from God, because so much of who we are has to do with God.

In the seven weeks that will follow March 9 (Ash Wednesday), we will journey with Jesus in the Gospel of John to discover how we can be shaped and even reformed by Christ to become more of who we are created to be. We will walk with Jesus in the wilderness, be invited to new life with Nicodemus, find Living water with the Samaritan woman, see light with the blind man, be raised to new life with Lazarus, and worship Jesus on Palm Sunday.

We cannot reshape ourselves. But when we give ourselves to the power of Christ's transforming Spirit in these stories, we can open up space in our lives for God to work. God will recreate us. Jesus's life, death and resurrection will transform us into a new way of being human. The Spirit will move in your life as you open yourself to be changed again by these stories.

"Lent is not tidy. Days grow longer (the word "Lent" comes from "lengthening"), the ground thaws, and the next thing we know, everything is filthy. Our windows need washing, our temples need cleansing, the earth itself needs a good bath." - A Lent Sourcebook

Ash Wednesday Service ö March 9

The Lenten season begins when Christians around the world gather to observe the ancient custom of rubbing dirt on our foreheads ö Eden gone to ashes, a reminder of our mortality and our sinfulness. A practice inherited from the Jewish community, wearing sackcloth and sitting in ashes were signs of penitence and sorrow for sin. A special Ash Wednesday service will be held at Tabor on March 9 at 6:30pm. Make plans to attend this service that will prepare yourselves for the season of renewal that we pray will come to us all.

For Families: Lent Devotional Book

Our friends at Mennonite Church Canada have produced a great Lent devotional and activity booklet that is especially designed for families with children. öCalled and Shaped by Jesusö was written by Elsie Rempel and the booklet mirrors the theme that will be followed in our worship times. We invite all families to make use of this FREE resource that will be placed in your church mailboxes on the first Sunday of March. We hope that this material will help to draw your family into the season of Lent and will enhance your worship time together.

Communionó March 6

We will be having communion on March 6 to remember our Lord's sacrificial love offered to us. Please prepare yourself to come to the table and to experience Christ in the breaking of bread and the drinking of the cup. We look forward to sharing in this sacred ritual together.

Sabbatical Summary

This fall and winter has been a meaningful time of study and growth for me. I took sabbatical time to complete three masters classes and one directed study. The classes were *Principles of the Kingdom* (a study of the Sermon on the Mount), *The Bible Speaks to Contemporary Issues*, and *Theology of Youth Ministry*. The directed study was *Purpose Driven Youth Ministry*. These classes were not only inspiring to me personally, but were directly applicable to my ministry at Tabor. From these classes have come youth ministry plans, theological insights, lessons, bible studies, new worship music and sermons both verbal and musical. I again want to express my sincere appreciation to the Tabor congregation for your support during this time of learning, renewal and inspiration.

-
Pastor Doug

Tabor Mennonite Youth Fellowship

This has been an exciting month for the TMYF! At the beginning of the month, Dustin Galyon came and spoke to us about grace and forgiveness. He told us some stories of his past and how he wished he could have offered more grace in his situations. One story we really found God's healing power in was when Dustin was younger and his favorite toy was stolen. Dustin said he tried to locate this person recently to offer his compassion. The following week the youth group traveled to the Newton MCC Center to pack health kits. All the youth worked tirelessly to finish our task and strive to do God's will. After missing a week due to extreme weather, the youth met up to discuss youth Sunday. After a bit of planning four youth and three sponsors traveled to McPherson to attend a talk featuring Shane Claiborne. The seven Taborites listened attentively as Shane spoke about living a life of service. The TMYF Youth capped off the month with an interactive study on courage.

-Reporter
Reece Hiebert

Women's Events in March

Here are some exciting March ventures for Willing Helpers and any Women at Tabor!

March 16: (a correction from the Willing Helpers Booklet), 9:30 a.m. will be a Work Day with projects planned for MCC. It's a fun and rewarding time working, serving and chatting together over cutting blocks, tying knots, quilting, embroidering, etc. And, to top it off, you get to eat! Bring a covered dish.

Other activities offered by our Western District Conference:

March 5-7 Scrapbook Retreat at Camp Mennoscah.

March 7 and 8 - Comforter Blitz at Journey at Yoder Activity Center.

March 17, 6:00 p.m. - Sunset Supper at Journey at Yoder Activity Center.



New Library Additions!

Adults:

- Up From the Rubble--
 - Mennonite Refugees stories
- Christians at the Border--
 - Christian perspectives on immigration
- The Emerging Christian Way--
 - Changes in Christianity
- The Dream of the Earth--
 - Environmental issues
- The Hammer Rings Hope--
 - MDS history and stories
- Parent Trek, Nurturing Creativity and Caring in Our Children
- The Naked Anabaptist---Anabaptist history, core values, and beliefs
- Now Go Forward--
 - Congregational growth
- Making Peace With Conflict--
 - Dealing with conflicts
- Jesus Matters--
 - Topics discussed by various contributors
- One Women's Passion for Peace and Freedom---A biography of Mildred Scott Olstead
- In My Shoes: Pedro Gonzalez (DVD)--
 - Immigrant biography (MCC)

Children:

- Storytime Jamboree--
 - Bible stories told by animals
- The Peace Book--
 - A great book about peace
- Fred Stays With Me!--
 - Divorce
- God Found Us You--
 - Adoption
- The Berenstain Bears:
 - Say Their Prayers
 - Love Their Neighbor
 - Go to Sunday School
 - New Baby
 - Discover God's Creation
 - And the Big Question

*New books are on the cart in the Library.
Check out instructions are posted on the desk.*

Camp Mennoscah News

Cropping fun! The Scrapbooking Retreat at Camp Mennoscah will soon be here. Join us for some Faith, Friends, and Finished Albums on March 4-6. It's a blast and a great way to get those pictures out where they can be enjoyed. Registration forms can be found at www.mennowdc.org in the Coming Events section or contact us at campmno@mennowdc.org or 620-297-3290. Registrations accepted until the retreat is full.

Spam? I don't think so. When we send out email confirmations or announcements through our camp software, there are always numerous emails that bounce back to us. Some of these come back to us because spam-blocker software thinks we're spam. We don't even eat Spam. Please make sure to add us to your contacts so that you can receive your email confirmations for camps and retreats.

At loose ends? We can help tie up your days with some volunteering at Camp Mennoscah! Check out our Volunteer Wish List (and our Things+Wish List) at www.mennowdc.org/Camp.html. We also need cooks, nurses, and kitchen staff for our summer youth camps. We know you're out there, all you long-time camp folks. Give us a call (620-297-3290) or email (campmno@mennowdc.org). We can't wait to hear from you.

Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



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11 Juniors Highers Knowing Jesus!

On January 29, 11 junior highers from Tabor Mennonite traveled to Hesston College for the "Know Jesus" event sponsored by Western District Conference. The kids heard inspiring messages from Joel Schroeder, sang worship songs with a praise band (led by Laura Unruh) and entered into the stories of the Anabaptists as they played a two hour game that had them running from the state church authorities. Sponsors DeVon Hiebert and Corey helped to supervise the energetic group and all agreed that this was a positive, faith forming experience that helped everyone to Know Jesus better. Here are some comments made by the kids:

- I enjoyed getting to know Jesus more. - Mikayla Lare
- The Holy Spirit (in the game) saved us and it seemed like she was nurturing us by helping us. - Sarah Booth
- In the Anabaptist game, I didn't get really scared and I tried to help to calm people. - Olivia Duerksen
- I learned how they (Anabaptists) did not baptize their babies. - Colton Guhr
- I thought (the Anabaptist game) was fun, but I also learned a lot. - Karina Brandt
- I would have been really scared if I was an Anabaptist (in the 1500s). - Hannah Miller
- I learned that you should walk FAST during the Anabaptist game. - Luke Unruh
- It is not as easy as it used to be to sleep on a floor. - Corey Miller
- I enjoyed the conversation between friends. - Anonymous
- I learned that you can be friends with new people. - Kylee Unruh
- Because Pilgrim Marpeck wasn't killed for his Anabaptist beliefs, he was able to write many articles that have served to inspire many other Anabaptists. Staying alive also had a benefit! - Corey
- It was interesting listening to the girls talk in their sleep! - DeVon Hiebert
- I learned that I'm good at talking with girls. - Kellen Froese



It was a real joy to spend that 24 hour period of time with our young people. They grew as a community, they heard God's Word in a new way, and they were reminded of their heritage as Anabaptist Mennonite people. We pray



that they will always look back on this experience and see how helpful it was in nurturing their faith commitment to follow Jesus. Some of our young people made a commitment to accept Christ and follow Christ and others made commitments to follow Jesus. Praise God for growing faith.

Thank you again, Tabor Mennonite, for helping these Youth Explorers have a great experience!