

June 17, 2007
30 Days of Generosity
“It’s about Purpose”

“ . . . on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

-Matthew 13:46

Praising Our Generous God

PRELUDE Anna & Leah Unruh

INTROIT *“Of the Father’s love begotten”* Elaine and Laura Unruh

WELCOME AND PRAYER Worship Leader, Leann Toews

*SINGING OUR PRAISE *“For the fruit of all creation”* No. 90
“Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing” No. 110
Michelle Unruh, accompanist

*GREETING EACH OTHER, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING *Please pass the welcome pads*

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER *“Great is thy faithfulness”*

WORSHIPING WITH OUR OFFERINGS AND DEDICATING THEM

CHILDREN’S STORY Carol Duerksen

Proclaiming God’s Generous Word

HEARING THE GOSPEL STORY *Luke 19:1-10* Maynard Knepp

SPECIAL MUSIC *“Fairest Lord Jesus”*
Elaine and Laura Unruh, Emil Schmidt

*HEARING THE GOSPEL *Mark 10:17-31*

SERMON *“Short Changed”* Corey Miller

Responding With Generosity

A PARABLE STORY *Mathew 13:44-46* from GoodSense Budget Course

PRAYING

*SENDING SONG *“My hope is built on nothing less”* No. 343

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Today

We were created for a purpose: to glorify God and enjoy a relationship with God. Stewardship is about chasing the things God chases and investing our lives in God's purposes for the world. Two men wrestled with this and one found purpose while the other left looking. May we hear again God's purpose in our lives.

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us!

A warm welcome to all who are worshiping with us today. This morning you were greeted by Rod & Ilona Abrahams and Milford Brandt. *Please take time to fill out our friendship pad.* Come back & join us again soon.

Childcare is available during worship today. *Please remember to save the back three pews for those with infants or small children.*

10:45 a.m.—Sunday School for everyone. Adults and youth will join together in the fellowship hall after worship this morning to continue our study and discussion on 30 Days of Generosity. Hear stories, discuss priorities and be challenged by the doggie drama provided by the youth. Children meet in the South Sunday school rooms in the basement.

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.

Youth Pastor Doug Krehbiel and Jude are visiting Jude's father in Iowa this weekend.

This Week

Tuesday, June 19

Noon—LUNCH BUNCH: Walton/Peabody/Goessel lunch bunch at the Goessel AGAPE Center.

Wednesday, June 20

6:00 p.m.—All those who took the "Return to the Earth" class and want to help build burial boxes and sew burial cloths, meet at Jerry and Leann Toew's for supper. The boxes and cloths will be made after we eat. Let us know if you are coming. —Leann and Jerry

Next Sunday, June 24

9:30 a.m.—Next Sunday we will continue with our 30 Days of Generosity. The theme is "*It's About Provision*" and the texts are Genesis 22; Hebrews 11:17-19 and Corey will be preaching. Keep up the work on your Generosity Journals and be prepared to share in worship what God has been doing.

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

Noon—Potluck grocery shower for Emily and Jeremy Newhouse and Peter and Katherine Goerzen. For each couple, bring grocery items along with a copy of your favorite recipe. (This doesn't necessarily have to be the dish you prepare for the potluck!) Post-it note pads will be available to jot down any sage advice you have gleaned over the years that you wish to joyously share with our newlyweds. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be a part of Tabor history (to say nothing of the great food & fellowship!) by attending the first-ever church sponsored grocery shower to stock Emily and Jeremy, and Peter and Katherine's pantry shelves with non-perishable items.
Please bring your own table service for the meal.

Remember to Praise God For:

The 68 MCC health kits which the children were able to put together with their Bible School offerings.

the many times when we discover our true purpose as God's beloved children

A n n o u n c e m e n t s

PLEASE SIGN UP NOW TO TEACH A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS NEXT YEAR!!

We need teachers for children's' and adult classes. Even if you've never taught before, sign up if you're interested. Sign-up poster is located on the bulletin board in the foyer. Thanks!

RESPONDING TO GREENSBURG:

>We will collect coins until the end of June for the Greensburg Mennonite Church and then send the coins off to the church. Other contributions can be sent to Mennonite Church USA, Box 347, Newton, Kansas 67114. Earmark the check for Greensburg Mennonite Church.

>Groups and individuals are still very much needed as cleanup continues in Greensburg. Equipment is also still needed; excavators, skid steers and skid steers with grapple forks. Contact Marvin Penner, MDS volunteer coordinator at marvinpenner@cox.net or call him at 985-291-1296.

CAMP MENNOSAH: If you haven't signed up for a great week of camp... good news! There's still time! There is still room in the following camps: Pre-Junior II, Junior II, Junior III, Senior High (boys only). Brochures for camp are available on the table in the foyer. It's gonna be a great summer!

TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES: Ten years ago this month, the Newton Self Help Crafts store located in the Et Cetera shop moved next door to 625 N. Main and changed the store name to Ten Thousand Villages. Celebrate the tenth anniversary of Ten Thousand Villages, Newton on June 22 and 23 with birthday cake and special events. On Friday and Saturday, enter a drawing for a picnic basket filled with Fair Trade items and on Saturday purchase a balloon to pop with prizes inside. Join us for fun as we celebrate the impact of Fair Trade in the lives of artisans around the world.

WDC/SCC JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE: A new and second hymnal supplement for *Hymnal: A Worship Book*, entitled *Sing the Story* will be introduced at the Mennonite Church USA biennial assembly in San Jose, CA, July 2-6. It will also serve as the primary songbook for the WDC/SCC annual conference in Tulsa, July 27-29. Also, special drama monologues based on I Samuel written by Michele Hershberger will be a part of all three worship sessions. Register now! www.mennowdc.org

HELP WANTED: Young adults needed to serve and be challenged in faith through DEO (Discipleship, Encounter, Outreach). Positions for service in Denver and Phoenix include interacting with women at a day shelter, meeting needs through a medical clinic, working at a men's homeless shelter, providing resources for the poor **and** living in community with developmentally disabled adults. It is not too late to apply! If God is calling you to one of these positions, please contact Kay Schroeder at KayS@mennonitemission.net. More information at www.d-e-o.org.

ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS:

Kauffman Museum day camp. June 25-29. Details are posted.

Job Opening: MCC Executive Director. Details are posted.

Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church 75th Anniversary Concert/ Lecture Series continues June 24, 3pm with a concert by Keith Plenert, violinist. Check bulletin board for complete details.

Zion Mennonite Church Concert Series, June 24, 7pm including Ken Rodgers, Joey Menninga, Jon Schrag, Rosewood Winds. See details.

Newsletter items are due in the secretary's office June 25.

God's Peace: It can be lived out in your life.

Therefore, somehow, we have to learn to get our satisfaction and our joy in faithfulness and in our intimate relationship with Christ. Then the question of effectiveness and success, in the usual sense of those terms is not the issue. We can transcend that and get energized and nourished by faithfulness knowing we are doing what we must do to live- not what we must do to change the neighborhood. The constant struggle is the deepening of faith that enables us to really trust that somehow the whole show is going to come off right in God's timing. - *Gordon Cosby*

30 Days of Generosity makes use of five core stewardship principles throughout the month-long study:

Generosity is Christ-centered. As followers of Jesus, we are accountable for how we handle what has been entrusted to us. Ultimately, everything we see, touch, and manage is God's.

Generosity is trust-oriented. God immediately demonstrated his trust in people by giving them tasks to do and asking them to manage what he created. As God's managers, we must decide in whom and in what we trust. Do we trust God for our future provisions, or do we hoard and control things we don't even own?

Generosity is being thankful in spirit. It is not how much we have, but what we do with it and in what spirit. Realizing God is the source of all things increases our gratitude for what God has provided and done on our behalf.

Generosity is driven by love. Jesus taught that the entire law of God is summarized in love for him and others. We manage God's resources from a desire to love God and other people.

Generosity is an act of obedience. There is an expectation that each follower of Christ will be faithful to honor God with the management of his or her God-given resources. The goal is to hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Everyone is a steward. The question is: what kind?