



# First Mennonite Church

## Midweek E-Newsletter

October 19, 2022

### From the Pastor

Who Really Owns This Now?

What does it mean to “own” something? What is the relationship between “owning” and “taking?” And what is the relationship between “ownership” and (taking) responsibility? (What now?)

These are some of the questions posed by “We Own This Now,” a play to be performed at Tabor College by the professional theater group “Ted and Company” on Wednesday, November 2, at 7:00 pm in Richert Auditorium. Keith Harder and I have been working with a team of people in south central Kansas to bring this production to Hillsboro since 2020. We had scheduled them to come in 2020, but then Covid hit! Fortunately, things are “full steam ahead” for their 2022 Kansas Tour, which will include performances in Lawrence, Wichita, McPherson . . . and Hillsboro!

The drama, which looks at love of land and loss of land, examines the “Doctrine of Discovery,” a philosophical and legal framework that permitted Christian governments to seize and settle land previously inhabited by indigenous peoples. Tragically, this includes a significant amount of farmland in Kansas that was inhabited by the Kaw/Kanza peoples before they were forced to live in reservations in Oklahoma and elsewhere. The performance will be followed by a “talk back session,” providing an opportunity for audience members to discuss what they have seen and heard. Representatives of MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) Central States, who have been working to educate area Mennonites about the Doctrine of Discovery for several years, will be in attendance to join the conversation. Tickets may be purchased at the door or online at [Tabor.edu/tickets](https://www.tabor.edu/tickets) (\$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors, \$5 for students).

In addition, Ted and Company will be performing in that morning’s 10:00 a.m. chapel service at Tabor College. In this presentation, entitled “Home,” the actors will weave biblical story and personal stories in a unique blend of humor and insight. They will explore the lasting, relevant power of story, both ancient and current, around themes of justice, belonging and home. This event is free and open to the public. Ted and Company have long been hugely popular at Mennonite Church USA conventions for their humor, particularly around biblical themes and stories.

*Tom*

## Verse of the Week: John 15:1

*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower." (the farmer)*

Jesus

## Among Our Friends and In Our Prayers

- ✚ Praying through our directory, lift to the Lord:
- ✚ **Pray for God's guidance and our listening to one another** in our upcoming congregational meeting as we discuss ministry priorities and Cash flow concerns.
- ✚ **WDC Request:** Give thanks for the WDC Resource Library, and pray for congregations, members, and leaders to experience growth in faith and ministry through use of library materials.

## Upcoming Events

- ✚ **This Sunday, October 23:**
  - Guest Speaker: Jennie Wintermote
  - Carry-in Lunch
  - Congregational Meeting
- ✚ **Bring non-perishable items for the food bank** and help our youth get a start on "Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat" on Oct. 26. The collection box is in the foyer. (You are invited to walk the streets on that evening with us too if you are needing some extra "steps" in your exercise plan!)
- ✚ **MCC Meat Canning:** There is a **sign up sheet** on the hall whiteboard for helping at the event on **Oct. 27**.
- ✚ **Women's Seminar: November 5 – 9:00am – 3:30pm at FMC**  
**"Joy is More Than Dish Soap"** - led by Nadine Friesen
  - Lunch will be provided.
  - A special presentation will be given by "Julia Childs"
  - Singing with Brenda Jordan



Sign-up sheet is on the white board in the hall.  
This is a great opportunity to invite friends and neighbors!

- ☞ **Tabor Fall Choral Concert** – You may be so excited from our meeting discussion this Sunday you will want to go on over to Tabor at 3:00pm and rejoice with some beautiful music.
- ☞ **Building A Lasting Connection Relationship Retreat**: November 4–6 **at Camp Mennoscah**. Give your relationship the gift of investment. Communication is key for a healthy and long-lasting relationship. During this 2-day retreat, couples will learn and practice skills together that promote healthy communication with one another in order to promote ways of effectively expressing hope, validating feelings, and navigating concerns together. Led by Katie Dyck (LCMFT) and Renee Reimer (ordained WDC pastor).

## Other Announcements

- ☞ **Sunday School**:. A new topic begins this coming Sunday at 9:30 am for adults. *Season Two of “The Chosen”*. Come watch and discuss with us!
- ☞ **Boxes for College Students**: We will once again be packing up fun supplies and treats for our 7 undergraduate college students. Please bring things to share with them such as personal items, (small boxes of Kleenex, lotion...) office supplies, (mechanical pencils, gel pens, sticky notes...) snacks, (granola bars, popcorn, crackers, cookies, nuts, fruit snacks...) and drink packets, (cocoa, cider...) Enjoy being creative! Let’s bless them with the extravagant love of God! Bring things by Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>.
- ☞ **Better than TV!** Our hall magazine rack is loaded with interesting materials. Six new copies of “A Common Place”, a publication of Mennonite Central Committee arrived in the mail and made me look. I noticed that no one had taken any of the previous issues (spring/summer), so I left a few in case you want one. The fall issue of Intersections, MCC theory & practice also arrived. Feel free to take and keep when there are multiple copies, or at least borrow what you are interested in. You will find Mennonite updates, college news, leadership and devotional materials, and more!
- ☞ **New Upper Room devotional guides** are in the rack in the hall for November and December.
- ☞ **Main Street Ministries**: Monday we received an email with this request. We have a large family that moved into Main Street Ministries that is needing a few things:
  - 4 dressers
  - tall kitchen trash bins 7
  - plastic laundry baskets
  - 5 XL twin box springs/frames
  - 6 sets of curtain rods with brackets (size: their tall narrow windows)
 Please let Angela Jost (620-947-3812) or Lynette Hiebert (785-587-4991) know if you have these things available to donate! You can also email [volunteersm@gmail.com](mailto:volunteersm@gmail.com).

- ☞ **Thurs., Oct. 20 – The inaugural Senses & Aging Symposium, 6-8:30 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College**, with Karen Kendrick speaking on “Hearing Loss and Fall Prevention” and Angela Loucks Alexander presenting from Australia on “Auditory Processing Disorder in Adults.” The symposium is free but registration is requested at [www.bethelks.edu/academics/convocation-lectures/senses-aging-symposium](http://www.bethelks.edu/academics/convocation-lectures/senses-aging-symposium)
- ☞ **Fri.-Sat., Nov. 4-5 – “Old Books Made New – The Surprising Wisdom of Erasmus for Today,” an intercollegiate symposium** honoring the Mennonite Library & Archives at Bethel College and libraries everywhere. **Keynote address by Greta Kroeker, Ph.D., Friday, Nov. 4, 6:30 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center.** Saturday events in Krehbiel Auditorium and via technology at Conrad Grebel University College, Eastern Mennonite University and Goshen College. See [marpeck-fund.bethelks.edu/events/old-books-made-new/](http://marpeck-fund.bethelks.edu/events/old-books-made-new/)
- ☞ A reminder that **the WDC Resource Commission** has paid for a subscription for the Vibrant Faith Summer-Fall 2022 Season Pass of **faith formation webinars!** Vibrant Faith seeks to transform the way churches envision and design faith formation for all ages and generations in the 21st century. This is available for anyone in WDC.  
The 2-part Courses include:

  - 5 Keys to ‘Measurement’ In Ministry**  
Shannon Hopkins Wednesdays, September 7 and 14, 2022
  - Coaching Paid Volunteer Leadership Teams**  
Jim LaDoux & Rev. Dr. Nathan Swenson-Reinholdt Thursdays, October 6 and 13, 2022
  - Crafting a Sustainable Digital Presence**  
Charity Starchenko Wednesdays, September 21 and 28, 2022
  - Engage Every Family!**  
Denise Utter, Wednesdays, November 30 and December 7, 2022
  - Entrepreneurial Skills for Forming Faith**  
Jonny Baker Wednesdays, November 9 and 16, 2022
  - Faith Formation at Home**  
What's Really Happening Nancy Going Wednesdays, October 19 and 26, 2022.
  - How Attachment Impacts Faith Formation**  
Adam Young, Wednesdays, October 5 and 12, 2022
  - Intentionally Small**  
Learning From the Advantages of Smaller Churches Dr. Amy Jacober Thursdays,

October 20 & 27

**-Spiritual-Direction Practices In Church**

Tamara Murphy - Thursdays, November 10 and 17, 2022

**-Vocational Parenting**

Dannica Olsen - Thursdays, December 1 and 8, 2022.

For more details about the webinars, go to: <https://vibrantfaith.org/masterclasses/>. A recording of each course will also be available after the fact in your portal. To access these resources at no cost to you, respond to this email to receive the instructions on how to gain access!