



# First Mennonite Church

## Midweek E-Newsletter

### November 2, 2022

## From the Moderator

(excerpts from his morning devotions, "Uncommon Life (Daily challenge) devotional by Tony Dungy and Nathan Whitaker)

### Empty Pockets!

*“You have planted much but harvest little. You eat but are not satisfied. You drink but are still thirsty. You put on clothes but cannot keep warm. Your wages disappear as though you were putting them in pockets filled with holes!”* Haggai 1:6

What a thing to say: *“Your wages disappear as though you were putting them in pockets filled with holes!”* Sound familiar? It seems on target and relevant today. How many people do we know who really like their jobs, feel they get paid more than enough, and are totally satisfied with where they are in life? These days it almost goes without saying that our pockets are filled with holes. Nothing of this world satisfies. Contentment seems impossible to find in all the places we look.

The Lord, however, offers us rest. We really can find contentment in the Lord. In Philippians 4:13, the apostle Paul says, *“I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.”* Many people consider that verse to be one of the most inspiring in Scripture. But what preceded Paul’s proclamation?

*“Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little.”* (verses 11-12)

Paul could do all things - including being content in any situation – through Christ. He says contentment is found in a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul was a prisoner for Christ, and in the trials and difficulties of his ministry for Christ – including prison time – he found contentment and rest for each day and the assurance that he would find contentment in the days ahead.

Are you grumbling and discontent about something in your life? Stop grumbling and start thanking God for everything He has provided for you.’

Doug Bartel

## Verse of the Week:

Psalm 100:3

***“Know that the Lord is God.  
It is He who made us,  
and we are His;  
We are His people,  
the sheep of His pasture.”***

## Among Our Friends and In Our Prayers

- ☞ **Our Church Family:** Continue praying through our directory.
- ☞ **WDC Request:** Pray for everyone reading this to have eyes to see where God is working in the hearts of our friends and neighbors, the wisdom to ask, “In what hospitable way can I help them connect with God?” and the heart to reach out with opportunities to connect on matters of faith. *(from the church planting commission, Pastor Karen Mascho)*
- ☞ **FMC budget and vision planning:** Pray for the grace and mercy of God to lead us in unity for the future.

## Upcoming Events

- ☞ **Tonight:** @ 7pm Ted & Co. presents “We Own This Now”. What if the land you love was stolen? Professional theatre artists Ted Swartz & Michelle Milne will incorporate humor with a difficult issue in our history. Tickets are available online at [tabor.edu/tickets](http://tabor.edu/tickets) or at the door. \$5 Student/\$12 Senior/\$15 General Public.
- ☞ **Tomorrow:** You are invited to Tabor Mennonite Church for their annual Mennonite Men's Chicken BBQ on Thursday, November 3, 2022 for a dine-in event from 5-7 p.m. Location: 891 Chisholm Trail, Newton, KS. The menu will be special recipe chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, roll, and ice cream. Donations will go towards the Mennonite Disaster Service Cabinet Shop and Tabor Church Hospitality Hall Sound System.
- ☞ **This Saturday:** Women's Joy Seminar: 9:00am – 3:30pm at FMC  
*If you didn't sign up, you can still come to any parts that interest you, whenever you are available.*

“Joy is More Than Dish Soap” - led by Nadine Friesen

9:00 coffee and rolls

9:15 Session One - Discovering Joy  
10:15 Songs of Joy  
10:30 Julia Childs  
11:15 Lunch  
12:30 Session Two - Nurturing Joy  
the Parable of the Insulin Pump  
1:30 Creative Joy  
2:15 Session Three - Spreading Joy  
3:30 Postlude Joy



(All times are approximate - the joy of not having to stick to a schedule 😊).  
Bring a friend)

☞ **This Sunday: Nov. 6 – Bethel Sings**, a concert featuring all Bethel College vocal groups, Henry Waters, director, 3pm, at Bethel College Mennonite Church.

## Other Announcements

☞ **Mission Sunday – November 20<sup>th</sup>**

Larry and Margaret Goering (Sandy Hiebert's parents) will be our special guests, sharing twice with stories you won't want to miss!

- 9:30am - the story of their MCC adventure in Mexico in 1968 – 1970 with Mexican treats in the Fellowship Hall.
- 10:30am – the story of their return trip in 2016 when they went back to Mexico almost 50 years later and got “The Rest of The Story” shared during our worship service.
- Lunch (11:45?) – authentic Mexican enchilada lunch with all the fixings.
- Extra bonus: If you want recipes and to learn to cook the authentic Mexican dishes, come on Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. Please let Sandy Hiebert know if you are interested so she can plan accordingly. (920) 650-4364 *[Help would be appreciated even if you come for an hour or two.]*

☞ **November 6, 13, & 20 - Boxes for College Students:** We will once again be packing up fun supplies and treats for our 7 undergraduate college students. Enjoy being creative! Let's bless them with the extravagant love of God! We will also have cards to sign for the two grad students we have, so please look for those and add a few words of encouragement!

- ☞ **November 12:** 7:00pm Symphonic Band fall concert at Tabor. Free admission.
- ☞ **Thursday, November 17, - 7:00pm Jazz in the Black Box** featuring Tabor College Jazz Band and Theatre of Voices in the Shari Fleming Center for the Arts – Prieb Harder Theater. Free admission – donations accepted.
- ☞ **November Special Offering:** November 13 will be an opportunity to give special gifts to Mennonite Mission Network.
- ☞ Have you been **“making a joyful noise to the Lord”** this week? Share your favorite hymns with us so we can join in on the “noise” together. (Paper in the foyer for your convenience or send an email or text)
- ☞ **The Kansas MDS (Mennonite Disaster Service) Unit** is sponsoring a Learning and Service trip to Jennings Louisiana, January 28-February 4, 2023. Participants will leave on Saturday, traveling to New Orleans, staying overnight, learning about long term recovery from disasters and visiting Laura Plantation on Sunday. Your cost will be one night lodging, two tours we will take and meals on the days we travel. MDS is covering the transportation, meals and lodging while on the MDS project in Jennings. We will be rebuilding homes with MDS from Monday through Friday. To make your reservations or for more information contact Cleo Koop at [cleohkoop@gmail.com](mailto:cleohkoop@gmail.com) or call 316-282-0797.
- ☞ The **Kansas MDS Unit** has purchased a **cabinet shop in Goessel** Kansas to produce kitchen cabinets for Binational MDS new homes. Currently, we are working Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9am-3pm each week. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Bruce Funk our Volunteer Scheduler at 316-734-2861.