

**James 3:1-12 (NRSV)**  
*Taming the Tongue*

**3** Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup> For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup> If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup> Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup> So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup> For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup> From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup> Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine yield fresh.

---

**FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH, 102 S. Ash, Hillsboro, KS 67063, 620.947.5662**

**Tom Harder, Pastor**  
pastor@fmchillsboro.com

Office hours: Mon 9:30-12:30,  
Tues, Wed, Fr 9:30-12:30, 1:30-4:30  
C: 316-617-9755

**Hank Unruh, Youth Pastor**  
youthpastor@fmchillsboro.com

Office hours: Wed afternoon  
C: 316-288-1079

**Kara Unruh, Secretary**  
secretary@fmchillsboro.com

Office hours: Mon: 9-12:30, Tues 3-5,  
Wed 1-5, Thurs 3-5, Fri 9-12:30

**Avery Unruh, Custodian**  
ave.unruh336@gmail.com

Office hours: Varied



# FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

In Christ –  
Making Disciples through  
Loving Relationships.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday**  
**September 12, 2021**  
**Taming Mr. T**

## GATHERING

Gathering Music		Marcia Brubaker
Welcome and Announcements		Doug Bartel
Prelude to Worship		Marcia Brubaker
*Call to Worship	VT 854	Doug Bartel
*Prayer		
*Hymn	Summoned by the God Who Made Us	VT 1
The Psalm	Psalm 116:1-9	

***I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice  
and my supplications. Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.***

*The snares of death encompassed me;  
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.*

**Then I called on the name of the LORD:**

**"O LORD, I pray, save my life!"**

*Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful. The  
LORD protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.*

**Return, O my soul, to your rest,  
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.**

*For you have delivered my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.*

***I walk before the LORD in the land of the living.***

Hymn	I Love the Lord	VT 684
Time for Children		Aleen Ratzlaff

## SHARING

Sharing and Prayer  
Hymn

Rain Down

Tom Harder  
VT 703

## LISTENING

The Lesson  
Sermon

Taming Mr. T

James 3:1-12  
Tom Harder

## RESPONDING

Hymn  
Sending  
Postlude

God, Give Me Time

VT 144

***A WARM WELCOME TO ALL*** *who are gathered to worship, wherever you are, and whenever you watch this service!*

## AMONG OUR FRIENDS

- ☞ Let us pray, fervently and frequently, for First Mennonite Church of Hillsboro. And let us pray for the will to enact our mission statement: “Making disciples through loving relationships.”
- ☞ Let us pray for all those who struggle with health-related issues. Which, if we’re honest, is all of us. May God grant each one of us the healing we need.
- ☞ Let us pray for all those impacted by Covid 19. Which again, if we’re honest, is all of us. May we live out God’s will, and not our own—on earth as in heaven.
- ☞ Finally, let us pray for peace. Peace among us, peace in our community, peace in our country, peace in our world.

**Today’s offering will support FMC’s Care Committee. If you would like to otherwise designate your offering, please do so in your check’s memo.**

**COVID-19 protocols:** The FMC Covid response team is urging the following regarding the Covid virus: 1. Masks are required when we gather indoors, 2. FMC should reduce capacity in the sanctuary and fellowship hall to 50% 3. Inside dining & public restroom use is tentatively cancelled for Arts & Crafts Fair.

**TODAY, Sunday, Sept. 12 – KIPCOR Film Series** resumes live, with *The Prison Within*, 2 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts

Center at Bethel College. Individuals incarcerated in San Quentin Prison and charged with murder take a journey of redemption through participation in a restorative justice program. Talk-back to follow. *Bethel's COVID-19 protocols require physical distancing and mask-wearing regardless of vaccination status.*

**Thursday, Sept. 16 – Artist reception for Rick McNary and “Doing Good with Wood,” 6-8 p.m., Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College.** Exhibit closes Friday, Sept. 17. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, 2-4 p.m.

**Bethel College’s Fall Festival is Sept. 30-Oct. 3, with most activities taking place Saturday, Oct. 2, on campus.** Features include music, food, class reunions, football, the comedy *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, and the STEM Symposium honoring Professor Emeritus of Chemistry Richard Zerger. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/alumni/events/fall-festival> for the complete schedule.

**The FMC Ministries Council has set Sunday, October 3, for a brief congregational meeting following the Sunday worship service.** At this time, a yes or no vote of members will be taken answering the question: Do you wish Pastor Tom to be affirmed for a second three-year term as lead pastor of First Mennonite Church? Our constitution specifies: “A lead pastor is called by affirmation of at least a two-thirds majority of the members present at a congregational meeting and the absentee ballots.” Those members who anticipate they cannot be present for that meeting may arrange with Kara Unruh to submit their ballot during the week prior to October 3. A transcript of prepared remarks and discussion comments from the congregational meeting of September 8 is being compiled and will be available soon (this Sunday or soon after). FMC members are also encouraged to review the Pastor/Congregation Review document by Marv Zehr (April 15, 2021) and the Amended Final Assessment Report by KIPCOR (August 19, 2021). These will be available in the church office.