

Promised Land

Sunday, April 24, 2016

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Gathering

Prelude Jyl Ewy, pianist

Gathering song: *Hungry*

The work of the people (announcements)

Call to worship..... Dennis Good, worship leader

Opening prayer

Song of faith: *All who are thirsty*

Greet one another; children come forward

Hearing God's Word

Children's focus..... Renee Hamm and Ashlyn Hamm

Prayer for our children (Child Abuse Prevention Month)

Led by June Thomsen, Caregiving Commission/Safe Sanctuaries member

Leader: God, you bless us with children, in our church, in our families, and in our community.

People: We give you thanks for young lives, full of hope and promise.

Leader: Let nothing harm your precious children, God.

People: Make us protectors of our precious children, Lord.

Leader: May our church be a place of safety for all who are in our care.

People: May it be a place of healing and hope for those who have experienced abuse or neglect.

Leader: God, we place our children under the shelter of your wings,

People: And you entrust us with their protection.

Leader: Loving God, give us grace to be faithful in this work.

All: Amen

Vision of Healing and Hope Statement from Mennonite Church USA
(see front cover)

Offering: Local Mission

Offertory: *Minuet No. 3* by J.S. Bach

Jakob Graber, cello; Marissa Murphy, piano

(Please pass the welcome pads)

Scripture: Psalm 40:5-10, 16-17..... Jenna Ratzlaff, reader

Sermon: *The things we see; the stories we tell*..... Pastor Anita Kehr

Responding to God's Word

Song of faith: *O healing river* *H 372

Pastoral prayer Pastor Kay Schroeder

Sending

Sending song: *Did you feel the mountains move?*

Blessing

Postlude

*H denotes Hymnal: A Worship Book

**CS denotes Companion Songbook

Musicians: Rachel Bachman, Wendy Schrag, Dan Miller, Daryl Unruh, vocals; Ted Krehbiel, drums; Daryl Unruh, guitar; Chorister: Kay Schroeder

Ushers: Alan Entz, Ryan Nye, Jan Groves, Allen Schmidt

Audio Tech: Graham Unruh Video/Lighting Tech: Eric Murphy

Visuals: Carol Hiebert

for all First Mennonite and Casa Betania campers. The sign-up sheets for scholarships will go up on the bulletin board in the court area soon.

Pastor Kay will be on vacation Wednesday, April 27 through Monday, May 2.

Our next week to serve at the Harvey County Homeless Shelter is May 11-17. Please contact Lee Penner at 316-284-2154 if you are able to help.

MECHANICAL & PLUMBING TRADES NEEDED! If you work in the mechanical or plumbing trades or are well skilled in that field we need your help this summer to complete the Nuñez Partnership Home Project in Wakefield, NE. At some point during the week of **May 8**, we need to install the below-grade plumbing before the basement floor is poured. Then the week of **July 3**, we need to install the mechanical and plumbing rough-in. And finally, the week of **August 7**, we need to set fixtures and final trim. There will also be sewer and water service to install at some point. No local license is required and inspections will conform to the 2012 IRC including

COLLEGE-AGE YOUNG ADULTS

HEY! College-age Young Adults! Join us Sunday @ 9:15 a.m. in Room 110 for conversation, coffee, cinnamon rolls, and a chance to connect/re-connect!

The FINAL spring FIRST POTLUCK = TODAY (April 24)

SR. HIGH YOUTH

"Get ←.....→ CONNECTED"

Expressing love of God in worship
Experiencing love in community
Extending God's love to the world

»» Sunday, April 24 (TODAY)

- ⇒ 9:15 am—Sunday School
- ⇒ 12:30 pm—Spring Congregational Meeting
- ⇒ 5:05 pm—Bible Study (Youth Rooms)
- ⇒ 7:07 pm—Catechism (Warkentin Room)

»» Wednesday, April 27

- ⇒ 7:02 pm—BLACK TACOS + MAY BASKETS! After tacos, we'll make and distribute May baskets to our neighbors. Back at FMC by 8:15 pm.

»» Sunday, May 1

- ⇒ 9:15 am—Sunday School

»» Wednesday, May 4

- ⇒ 7:02 pm—Youth & Parents = Summer Mission Trip Details / Plans



the mechanical and plumbing code. If you would be willing to help with any portion of this please contact Jordan Miller very soon. Please call 316-212-3255 or email jordan@millerconstruction.org.

Cards are available in the pews for you to share your thoughts, prayer requests, ask for a visit, or whatever you would like to communicate. Remember to sign them and put them in the offering plate.

Prayer is one of God's gifts to us. If you would like to pray in a set-aside room for that purpose, the prayer room is available whenever the church is open in Room #113. The weekly prayer and praise notes can remind you of some of the situations needing intercession.

Community Announcements

The Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus will be in concert at Central Community Church in Wichita today, 7:00 PM.

Circles of Hope invites the public to attend the following events at First United Methodist Church, Newton. On Tuesday, April 26, Shelly Black from Citizens State Bank will present on "Establishing Credit." On May 3, we will hear about the Circles National Conference. Supper begins at 5:30 PM and the meeting begins at 6:30 PM. Please call Peace Connections at 284-0000 if you will be bringing children who require child care.

The launch party for the spring issue of YAWP!, the Bethel College literary magazine will be Thursday, April 28, 6:30-8:00 PM, at Mojo's coffee shop, with music by the Flannelbacks and readings from the issue.

The Bethel College Wind Ensemble spring concert, with guest conductor Don Kehrberg, will be on Friday, April 29, 7:00 PM, in Memorial Hall.

More room for retirees! Our rollicking, good-time Retirees Relaxation Retreat at Camp Mennoscah is April 25-27. Our theme is *Mennonites in Early Kansas*. There will be time for bible study, music, presentations, and most definitely coffee breaks throughout the day. It's a chance to join with others and to renew in the midst of creation. Invite a friend to share in the fun! Call 620-297-3290 for a brochure or register online at www.campmennoscah.org.

KIPCOR Film Series wraps up with *The Waiting Room*—Sunday, May 1, 3:00 PM, Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College. Talk-back session will follow with Dr. Ted Cook, medical director of the emergency department at Newton Medical Center.

The final concert of the 2015-16 Prairie Window Concert Series, featuring Walnut Valley Festival favorites The Steel Wheels, will be Sunday, May 1, 4:00 PM at the Wichita Orpheum Theatre. Tickets cost \$29, plus tax. Convenience fees apply if reserving by phone or online. Reserve tickets online at wichitaorpheum.com/events or in person at the INTRUST Bank Arena Box office. The concert is hosted by the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston.

Healthcare professionals, students, retirees! Registration deadline extended to April 30 for the Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) 2016 Annual Gathering, June 17-19, at the YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, CO. The theme will be *Wholeness and Holiness: Views from the Mountaintop*. Topics include the spirituality of illness, international healthcare, end of life ethics, public health, trauma, and gun violence. Vibrant worship, stimulating speakers, and a variety of workshops. Open to anyone interested, especially persons from medical, mental health, therapy, and chaplaincy professions, including students and retirees. Register at www.mennohealth.org/gathering, email info@mennohealth.org, or call 1-888-406-3643.

SWAP needs summer staff! Summer will be here before we know it, and Mennonite Central Committee's Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP) program is seeking summer staff for three-month assignments in Kentucky and West Virginia. Job site coordinators utilize volunteer labor to accomplish quality home remodels/repairs, while meals coordinators plan balanced, nutritional meals for volunteers. Summer staff are a critical component of SWAP's successful ministry, as they help facilitate the weekly SWAP service groups working on housing repair for low-income persons. Summer staff vary in age from 19 to 70+, and they receive meals, lodging and a weekly stipend for their service. For more information go to swap.mcc.org or call Angela at 606-633-5065.

Know a young person who enjoys sports, theater, writing or coding? Goshen College is offering day-time summer camps for pre-K through high school ages! Learn more and sign up at goshen.edu/summercamp.

WELCOME TO EVERYONE who has come to worship and especially to those who are here for the first time. May you experience the loving embrace of God today. Nursery Care, infants to age 2, is provided during the worship service in the nursery located at the back of the Sanctuary. Childcare is available for children ages 2-4 during the worship service in Room 223. If you need help finding your way, ask an usher at the door. We would be glad to help you!

“Meet the Congregation” displays now feature LaWanda Wiens, Connie Weber, and Scott and Cindy Erb. Take a look at the display cases by the Library and Court Area and learn about each family.

First Mennonite Church by the numbers

Attendance:

- Worship—204; Visitors—1
- Sunday School—180

Offering: Last week's offering for Local Mission was \$8,061. The offering for May 1 is for Camp Mennoscah.

Receiving or has received care—Elsie Epp, Harry Hynes Hospice at St. Francis Hospital

The Spring Congregational Meeting is called for **TODAY, at 12:30 PM**, following a potluck meal. The agenda will include a vote for extending a four-year term call to Pastor Anita, reports from our treasurer, Audit Committee, and Capital Fund Development Committee. Drinks will be provided for the potluck. Please bring your own tableware and food to share. Childcare will be provided. Please plan to attend this important congregational meeting.

The LAST FIRST Potluck of spring is TODAY! Due to the Spring Congregational Meeting getting rescheduled for today, we will move FIRST potluck up one week instead of having two potlucks back to back!

It's time to sign up for Camp Mennoscah! To receive your early registration discount of \$10 please have your registration arrive at camp before May 1. When you fill out your registration, there is a line that asks if you have a scholarship. You do! Our church will again be providing \$100 scholarships