

Exploring our Vision and Mission: Community-Connected Sunday, February 19, 2017

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Gathering

Prelude.....Donna Stucky, organist/pianist
Choral introit: *Come to me, come to us* by Rory Cooney
The work of the people (announcements)
Call to worship..... Penny Dorado, worship leader
Opening prayer

Praising

Song of faith: *We are people of God's peace* *H 407
Greet one another; children come forward
Children's focus Keith Knopp
Choral anthem: *How can I say* by V. Michael McKay
Offering: Local Mission
Offertory
(Please pass the welcome pads)

Hearing God's Word

Choral prayer for illumination: *Open my ears, open my eyes* by Clemens
Sermon: *Community-Connected* Pastor Kay Schroeder
Scriptures..... Kevin Miller, reader
Colossians 3:12-17; Philippians 2:1-5; Micah 6:8

Responding To God's Word

Question: What are the practices that build/develop connections in and to our community through worship, hospitality, encouragement, and invitation?
Song of response: *Will you let me be your servant*..... H 307
Pastoral prayer..... Pastor Anita Kehr

Sending

Sending song: *Healer of our every ill*..... H 377

Blessing

Postlude

*H denotes Hymnal: A Worship Book **CS denotes Companion Songbook
Choir accompanist: Jyl Ewy
Ushers: Gus Dorado, Ray Franz, Mike Garcia, Allen Schmidt
Childcare: Greg or Laura Myers, Lia Groves
Audio Tech: Tim Regier Video/Lighting Tech: Eugene Waltner
Visuals: Janet Franz

OUR VISION—Together in Christ: rooted deeply, reaching widely, loving well
OUR MISSION—With Jesus as our center, we are called to be:

- Faith-Focused
- Mission-Minded
- Community-Connected

**Winter Retreat 2017**

» **THIS Weekend!** Youth have spent the weekend at Camp Mennoscah and will return to FMC on **Monday at 1:04 pm!**

July 16-21—Summer Mission Trip (Chicago, IL) Pre-registration due **Feb. 26.**

Scholarship Fund update. The February offering gave a significant boost to the fund balance. On behalf of the students and their parents, the Scholarship Committee says *"Thank you."* A large group of our young adults continue to pursue higher education at a Mennonite Christian school. For the 2017 Spring semester, \$8,000 was paid out for 16 scholarships. Comparable numbers are forecast for the 2017 Fall semester; and then again in the 2018 Spring semester. Please consider additional contributions to the Scholarship Fund during the upcoming months so there will be sufficient monies for the 2017-2018 school year. The young adults are blessed by a congregation that believes in and supports them. The students and their parents plus the Scholarship Committee appreciate the past and current generosity of the congregation.

Graphic designers, artists, those who enjoy drawing or doodling— would you be interested in sharing your gifts through bulletin covers? If the answer is yes, please contact Kay Schroeder at 316-217-1272 or kays@firstmennonitewton.org. (Thanks to those who have already responded!)

There is a thank you note on the bulletin board from Sharon Harder. Stop by and take a look!

Mark your calendars for the next Stewardship Celebration, *Don't Be Fooled! FMC has Talent*, on Saturday, April 1. The church-wide celebration will host an array of talents: music, drama, painting, wood working, photography and hobby collections. Come hungry and enjoy the food court. Plan to spend the evening celebrating and or sharing your God-given talents. If you are interested in sharing your talent, contact Judy Murphy by email or phone. 316-288-7060 juju7960@cox.net

Community Announcements

A KIPCOR Film Series presents *Do Not Resist*, a documentary by Craig Atkinson about police militarization in the U.S. since 9/11, will be today, **3:00 PM**, in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. Talk-back follows with scheduled resource people DJuan Wash and AJ Bohannon, community organizers from Wichita.

What's So Funny about Money?—a Ted and Company show—will be at the McPherson Opera House, 219 S Main St, McPherson, KS today, 7:00 PM. This show is open to the public by donation to benefit the WDC Matching Fund, assisting pastors with financial challenges. Invite your friends!

Harvey County Circles of Hope is a relationship-based initiative that seeks to improve the financial health and well-being of the community and our residents. Circles of Hope connects community volunteers with families ready and willing to begin their journey towards financial stability. Community volunteers support and encourage families by sharing their time and friendship. A Volunteer Ally training will be held on February 21 and 28. Currently, Circles is one person short in having enough allies. If you are interested in taking the training, please contact Circles at 283-0000. We meet at First United Methodist Church at 801 North Main in Newton. Supper begins at 5:30 PM with the meeting at 6:30 PM. Please call Peace Connections if you will be bringing children.

Fundraiser for the Whale! There will be a hymn sing and dessert auction fundraiser for the new playground structure (otherwise known as "the whale") on February 26, 4:00-6:00 PM, at Eden Mennonite Church in Moundridge. All are invited to come to this time of singing, fellowship, and bidding on tasty desserts!

Scrapbook and Crafts Retreats—March 3-5 and March 17-19! These retreats at Camp Mennoscah are filled with hours of time for your crafts, devotions, fellowship, and fun. Register online at campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 for more information. Bring a friend for a discount!

The 2017 MCC Comforter Blitz dates are March 6, 7, and 8. Check the bulletin boards for more information and times.

Youth Volunteer Weekend! Camp Mennoscah is offering a short weekend of worship, service, fellowship, and fun for those in grades 7-12 on March 10-11. We'll have counselors (i.e. adults) for those attending, and youth groups are welcome to join. Please contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 if you are a youth sponsor who would like to attend. Scholarships are available. Register online at campmennoscah.org.

On Saturday, March 18, 2017, the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston will host its annual spring educational symposium on the theme of *Living the Land Ethic in Kansas*. The goals of the symposium are to introduce the concept of 20th century conservationist Aldo Leopold's *Land Ethic*, to learn more about the elemental prairie resources that shape our Kansas economy and identity, to find inspiration from the practitioners who steward our Kansas natural and human resources, and to hear a message of hope for how to be better stewards in the

future. The cost of registration is \$40 for Dyck Arboretum members and \$50 for non-members for those who register by March 10 and includes a full day of presentations, breakfast, and lunch. After March 10, registration will increase to \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members. RSVP by March 15 to be included in meal count.

Mennonite Mission Network is seeking a fulltime Mennonite Voluntary Service Program Director to provide visionary, spiritual and programmatic leadership for sustaining and developing this evolving program. A collaborative and compassionate leader is essential to develop and maintain ongoing relationships with congregational leaders and support committees in host locations and to lead the MVS team in the administration of budget and unit management. This person will embrace God's reconciling mission to the world, be committed to Jesus Christ's path of peace, and be active in a local Anabaptist faith community. Openness to frequent travel and comfort with communicating by phone and email is required. Prior inter-cultural experience in mission or service is helpful. Anticipated start date is June 2017. Read the full position description at www.MennoniteMission.net. Please send resumé and letter of interest to StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net.

Call for singers—Sunday, May 7, at Bethel College, the Masterworks Chorus and Orchestra will perform Haydn's *Missa in Angustiis*, also known as the *Lord Nelson Mass*. If interested in joining the choir, contact Dr. William Eash, 316-284-5316 or weash@bethelks.edu, for rehearsal and performance information.

Camp Mennoscah's 2017 camp catalogs should be in your hands. Didn't get yours? Call us at 620-297-3290. We'll get one to you quicker than quick. You can also find the catalog online at campmennoscah.org.

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 Stan and Esther Epp and family (Library display case), Edith Harms (Court Area display cases), Willard Epp (Court Area display case) The display case next to the office will have information about MCC. Take a look at the display cases and learn more about each family.

First Mennonite Church by the numbers

Attendance:

- Worship—215; Visitors—11
- Sunday School—198

Receiving or has received care—Jerry Decker, KS Medical Center, Andover; Fern Koehn, NMC

Offering: Last week's offering for Local Missions was \$6,194. The offering for February 26 is for Local Mission.

This Sunday we begin our coin and bill collection for MCC. Thank you for your support.

THANK YOU, First Mennonite family and friends, for the support of youth ministry at FMC through the Verenika Fundraiser. Around 430 people ate nearly 900 verenika! A special thank you to Carol Entz, Carlos Lujano, and Rich Denno. Donations were amazing, and we will share a grand total next week! Thanks again!

The youth and youth ministers are on their annual winter retreat at Camp Mennoscah this weekend. Please keep them in your prayers!

The new welcome sign in front of our church (initiated by the Radical Hospitality class and affirmed by the Church Board) is a symbol of hospitality to our community. These signs originated with a Mennonite church in Harrisonburg, Virginia and have spread across the country and among denominations in the months since.

Women's Fellowship will meet Tuesday, February 21, 9:30 AM, with a sack lunch at noon. Knotting blankets as well as working on MCC projects are on the agenda. Devotions by Marjorie Janzen. Please join us.