

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, April 2—Lent 5: Restore us, O God! We breathe.

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service
4:04 PM Youth Group Bible Study

Monday, April 3

Jail Ministry: Gary and Ruby Moore, Arlen Wiens

Wednesday, April 5—Homeless Shelter Week begins

7:00 PM Youth Group
7:00 PM Choir

Thursday, April 6

7:00 PM Nurture Commission

Sunday, April 9—Lent 6: Restore us, O God! We hope.

7:45 AM Outreach, Mission, and Peace Commissions
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service

Upcoming Worship Services

April 16—Easter: Restore us, O God! We live! Jeremiah 31:1-6; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;
Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10
April 23—Trust God; Love People—Acts 2:14a, 22-28; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9;
John 20:19-31

*H denotes Hymnal: A Worship Book **CS denotes Companion Songbook

Chorister: Pastor Kay Schroeder; Musician: Joey Menninga, viola

Ushers: Rick Ortman, Rod Schmidt, John Good, Janice Good

Childcare: Amanda Menninga, Camryn Entz

Audio Tech: Ryan Koehn

Video/Lighting Tech: Alex Goering

Visuals: Carol Hiebert



*Restore us,
O God!*

Focus statement: Lent 5, April 2, 2017

When we come to the end of our own human strength, vitality, and purpose, we recognize the reality of death in and around us. God, who is Spirit, breathes life into us, revealing God's glory and purpose. We, and the community, are restored.

**First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS**



FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

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Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr 316-283-0273

Custodian

Gordon Flickner 316-217-1346

Restore us, O God! We breathe.

Sunday, April 2, 2017

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Gathering

Gathering musicJyl Ewy, piano

Choral introit: *Come to me, come to us* by Rory Cooney

The work of the people (announcements)

Call to worship and opening prayer John Good, worship leader

Leader: Come. Bring your weary bones and your crushed souls.

All: *Now is the time to worship the life-giving Spirit.*

Leader: Come. Bring your dashed hopes and broken dreams.

All: *Now is the time to worship the life-giving Spirit.*

Leader: Come. Bring your heavy sorrow and lingering sadness.

All: *Now is the time to worship the life-giving Spirit.*

Leader: Bring all that you have and all that you are.

The Spirit is here to breathe life into all that is lifeless.

Praising

Songs of faith: *Breathe*

I will come to you in the silence **CS 95

Greet one another; children come forward

Children's focus: Community-Connected Andrea Regier

Offering: Mennonite Mission Network

Offertory

(Please pass the welcome pads)

Song for offering ourselves: *You are all we have*

Scripture: Ezekiel 37:1-6..... Nancy Waltner reader

Confession and Words of Assurance

Leader: God, we confess that when we look into the valleys of our lives,
we are tempted to fix our gaze on the remnants of our past. We see the dry
bones, and we doubt in our minds—"Will these bones ever live?"

People: *But in the midst of our doubt, we proclaim that you are the life-giving
Spirit. You breathe new life into all that is dead.*

Choir: *For you, O God, raised up the dry bones in the valley.*

Organ side: *Your Son, Jesus, brought Lazarus out from the tomb,*

Piano side: *and your Spirit lifted anew the hearts of the disciples.*

Leader: Teach us, O Lord, to wait for your breath.

All: *Blow your mighty wind into the hollow chambers of our hearts, that we
may never settle for death but rise again as your beloved people.*

(Pause for silent confession)

Leader: God, holy Breath,

All: *restore us.*

Leader: But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you
once more. Our whole selves waited for you, O Lord, and you answered us.
In you there is unfailing love and full redemption. You redeem us from all
our sins. Amen.

Choral anthem: *God so loved the world* edited by Charles H. Morse

Hearing God's Word

Scripture: John 11:1-45

Sermon: *Questions of Life and Death* Pastor Anita Kehr

Responding to God's Word

Song of faith: *Spirit of the living God* *H 349

Pastoral prayer Pastor Kay Schroeder

Sending

Sending song: *Breathe on me, breath of God*..... H 356

Benediction

Postlude

The April 9 Seconds @ FIRST Potluck is now **Fourths @ FIRST Potluck** as it has been rescheduled to coincide with the Spring Congregational Meeting (and carry-in meal) on April 23. This will be the final Seconds @ FIRST Potluck of the season. Invite college students and other young adults!

Homeless Shelter—Our next week to serve the Harvey County Homeless Shelter is April 5-11. If you are able to help, contact Lee Penner at 316-284-2154 or Ruby Moore at 620-837-4876.



Boxes have been placed in the foyer to collect designated school supplies for the MCC school kits. A second box is for school kit bags; sewing instructions are available on the box. Thank you for supporting MCC and our children's SS offering project.

College scholarship money is available—If you will be attending (or are considering) a Mennonite college, university or seminary in 2017-2018, you are invited to apply for scholarship funds from FMC. **By no later than Sunday, April 16**, submit the completed application to either Jyl Ewy or Ron Dietzel. For each school year, an FMC application must be completed. Some Mennonite colleges provide matching funds so your monies would be doubled when enrolled in one of those schools. Eligibility criteria for the FMC funds are provided on the application. The form is available in the Court Area at FMC.

Palm Branch Processional—On Sunday, April 9, children ages 2 through grade 6 are invited to participate in our palm branch processional during the worship service.

Maundy Thursday—Please make plans to attend the Maundy Thursday service on April 13, 7:30 PM. The evening will include communion, songs of faith, scripture reading and a story: an allegory illustrating how Jesus heals and transforms each of us. The story will be completed on Easter morning.

Easter lilies—You are invited to purchase lilies to share with the congregation on Easter Sunday morning, April 16. Please leave them in the Sunday School classroom #224 before 9:00 AM on April 16. Thank you!

Camp Mennoscah time is approaching! Over the last few years, First Mennonite has offered scholarships of \$100 per student for children in both our congregation and in Casa Betania. This experience has been a vital part of the faith formation of those who attend. Last year, we distributed \$4,300. The Nurture Commission would be grateful for any help you can give toward supporting our children in this way. Please talk to any member of the commission for more information. Thank you!

Youth Group Auction—If you have something already finished to donate to the youth auction on April 26, please bring it to the church office or contact Carol Entz, 283-0525 about details. If you still have some items that you want to donate, but have not told Carol, please get that information in as soon as possible so it can be included in the auction listing.

SR. HIGH YOUTH

*With Jesus as the center, we are called to be:
Faith-Focused, Mission-Minded, Community-Centered*

TODAY! Sunday, April 2

- » 9:15 AM—Sunday School
- » 10:30 AM—Worship Service
- » 4:04 PM—Bible Study @ Justen's house!



COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, April 5

- » 7:02 PM—Youth Group

April 8—Serve at MCC Sale “Serving of the Multitude”

April 26—Bi-annual Youth Group Auction

July 16-21—D.O.O.R. Summer Mission Trip (Chicago, IL)

The Harvey County Safe House is collecting old cell phones in any condition. If you have any that you would like to get rid of, please give them to Ken Frey.

Congregational Ministry in the Face of Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence - On April 29, Western District Conference is sponsoring a workshop on how congregational leaders can respond when abuse takes place that affects the broader congregation. Kathryn Goering Reid, a credentialed minister and Executive Director of Family Abuse Center, Waco, TX, will be our seminar leader. The workshop takes place at First Mennonite Church, Hutchinson, KS, 8:00 am-3:30 pm. Together we will look at models that have worked in some congregations and suggest actions that will help a congregation work through these complex situations. For more information, see mennowdc.org/congregational-ministry-in-the-face-of-sexual-abuse-and-domestic-violence/. **Our congregation has paid the registration fee that covers attendance for everyone from the congregation who wishes to attend. Please let Pastor Anita know by April 16 if you are planning to attend.**

SPRING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is being called for Sunday, April 23, following a carry-in dinner after the worship service. The meeting will begin at approximately 12:30 PM. Child care will be provided. Reports will be shared on a variety of topics plus updates will be given on our current financial information. Please plan to attend this important meeting in the life of our congregation.

Community Announcements

Thank you so much for joining with OVM in our Commit a Radical Act Valentine's letter writing and prisoner care kit campaign. You showed up, put pens to paper, filled ziploc bags with toothpaste, socks and more. Because of you, 1100 letters were written and delivered to Hutchinson Correctional Facility. Because of you, 236 Prisoner Care Kits are ready to deliver to indigent men. We'd love to see you next year, same time, same place!

Parkinson's Support Group—The Kidron Bethel Parkinson's Support Group will meet Tuesday, April 4, 2:00 PM in Menno Hall. Paul Unruh, retired social worker, will lead a

discussion on the topic “What It’s Like to Live With Parkinson’s Disease.” Caregivers and participants living with Parkinson’s are invited to share their experiences.

The Hesston College Chamber Orchestra, Women's Chorus and Men's Chorus will be featured in a concert at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, April 4, at Hesston Mennonite Church. The concert is free and open to the public.

We are putting in the dam! Come to Camp Mennoscah on Sunday, April 9, around 2:30 PM to help us prepare the river for the summer. Both spectators and helpers are welcome! Meet at the sports shack for instructions. The dam will go in regardless of the weather, unless it is unsafe to do so. We'll see you there!

The next concert of the 2016-17 Prairie Window Concert Series will feature folks and roots musician Old Man Luedecke on Sunday, April 9, 4:00 PM, at the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston. Join us for an evening of great music and good food in a prairie garden setting. Tickets are \$20 adults/\$10 kids, plus tax. Arboretum members receive a 10% discount. Purchase tickets online or call 620-327-8127 to reserve your seats.

Transforming Congregational Conflict and Communication: April 12-May 23. Explore the possibilities and pitfalls of courageously engaging in differences within congregational life in this online, six-week short course offered by the Church Leadership Center of AMBS. The instructor will be Betty Pries, CMEd, MTS, Ph.D. candidate. Cost is \$250.00. Scholarship help may be available by contacting June Thomsen, Chair of the Caregiving and Membership Commission.

MEDA Kansas Chapter—Join us for a panel discussion with young adults on Millennials in the Workplace on Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 PM at AGCO in Hesston. For questions contact Carla Wedman 620-896-7381.

Do you enjoy mentoring young adults and living in community? Service Adventure is looking for unit leaders for our Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Jackson, Mississippi, units. The two-year term begins late July. If you are interested, please contact Susan Nisly at SusanN@MennoniteMission.net or visit MennoniteMission.net.



If you enjoy playing golf and would like to support Harvey County Circle of Hope, join us Saturday, April 29, 8:00 AM, for a 4-person scramble, followed by a delicious lunch! For more information contact Peace Connections at 284-0000 or visit peaceconnections.org.

Western District Women in Mission is accepting registrations for Sister Care: Level 2 “Going Deeper” weekend retreat led by Carolyn Heggen and Rhoda Keener. The event is May 5-7, at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita. Contact Darlene Powers at dpowers11@cox.net for a registration form and any questions.

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 second half of 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 Woody and Nora Miller and family (Court Area display case), Jim and Alice Huxman (Library display case), Gary and Ruby Moore (Court Area display case). Take a look at these display cases and learn more!

First Mennonite Church by the numbers

Attendance:

- Worship—217; Visitors—5
- Sunday School—185

Offering: Last week’s offering for Local Mission was \$4,798. The offering for April 9 is for Local Mission.

Today the buckets will be passed during the offering time to collect loose change for the relief work of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). Today is the last Sunday the buckets will be passed.

In Sympathy—Deloris Schmidt (79), passed away on March 30. Her funeral service will be held here at First Mennonite on Monday, April 3 at 1:00 PM, burial following at Greenwood Cemetery. We extend our condolences to John and their family.

Thank you to Madelynn Hamm for drawing the front cover of the bulletin this week.

Kingdom sharing: The Kingdom Sharing today comes from a request by the Church Board to each commission and committee to offer a report once a month on one part of our Mission statement (Faith-Focused, Mission-Minded, Community-Connected). This month’s sharing comes from Outreach, Missions, and Peace Commission who is reflecting on “Community-Connected.”

The Koinonia Sunday School class is organizing meals for Peter and Jennie Wintermote for the arrival of their first child. If you would like to bring a meal, please talk to/ contact Amanda Entz (amandaentz@gmail.com).

MCC Sale—Our church has been assigned to bake 5 loaves of rye bread and 60 pies for the sale on April 7-8. Please check the bulletin board in the Court Area on how you can help with the needs of the MCC Sale. Please bring your baked goods or any MCC items to the church by 12 Noon on Friday, April 7.