

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 31—4th Sunday of Lent: Willi Hugo Perez, guest preacher from SEMILLA, Guatemala

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 12:00 PM Youth Group Council
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Farewell Service for Pastor Jaime

Monday, April 1

- 3:45 PM Worship Commission-Warkentin Room

Wednesday, April 3

- 7:00 PM Choir
- 7:00 PM Youth Group

Thursday, April 4

- 7:00 PM Nurture Commission

Sunday, April 7—Membership Service Celebration with Woven (Bethel College women's acapella group). Potluck lunch to follow.

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 12:00 PM Potluck Lunch

Upcoming Worship Services

- April 14**—Palm/Passion Sunday
- April 18**—Maundy Thursday Service—7:30 PM
- April 21**—Easter Celebration

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

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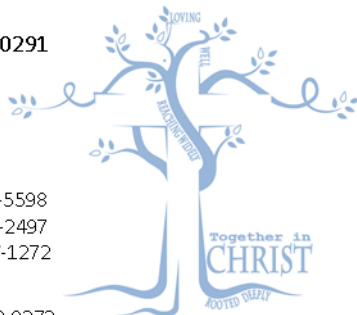
Website: www.firstmennonitenewton.org

Pastoral Team

- Anita Kehr, Pastor.....316-283-5598
- Joel Schroeder, Pastor of Missional Ministries.....316-215-2497
- Kay Schroeder, Pastor of Worship and Visitation.....316-217-1272

Administrative Assistant

- Tracy Kerr.....316-283-0273



Ash Wednesday Cross by Jan Richardson

**First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS
March 31, 2019**

fruit or dessert to share. Pastor Jaime will be focusing his pastoral ministry with the Aposento Alto church in Wichita, while continuing to live in Newton.

Camp MennoScah Scholarships—Over the last several 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 supported about 40 students. 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!

Camp MennoScah time is approaching! First Mennonite will again be offering scholarships of \$100 per student for children in both our congregation and in Casa Betania. Sign-up sheets for scholarships are now in the Court Area. Please sign your child up on the correct camp week, along with parent/guardian names. **There is a discount of \$10 if students sign up and pay in full by April 1.** Please talk to Stephanie Weaver of the Nurture Commission with any questions.

There is a box on the north wall of the Court Area that you may place your items in for the MCC sale.

In celebration of the new members being taken into our church and to thank the women's acapella group, Woven, who will be leading us in worship, we are having a potluck lunch following the worship service next Sunday, April 7. Please bring a dish or two to share as well as your table service. Thank you!

College scholarship money is available—If, during the 2019-2020 school year, you will be attending (or are considering) a Mennonite college or university for undergraduate study or a Mennonite seminary, you are invited to apply for scholarship funds from FMC. **By no later than Sunday, April 14,** 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 Gathering Area.



You are invited to bring lilies and leave them in classroom 224 prior to the Easter Sunday worship service on April 21. They will be arranged in the sanctuary for Easter morning. You may pick yours up following the service.

SR. HIGH YOUTH March Focus = GOD'S PEACE

Sunday (3/31) @ 9:15 am—Sunday School / 10:30

am—Youth lead Worship / 12 noon—Youth Council

Wednesday (4/3) @ 7:02 pm—YOUTH GROUP

**COMING
EVENTS**

▶▶ May 1—Youth Group Auction Fundraiser

▶▶ July 2-6—MENNONITE YOUTH CONVENTION (Kansas City)



The new updated Yearbooks are in your church mailbox. If you no longer need the old one, please consider recycling it to the Church Office so that we may reuse the binding off the old books. Thanks so much!



Youth Group Auction—It's only a month away now on Wednesday, May 1, 6:00 PM! Creative ideas abound when it comes to the possibilities for our auction: an outdoor barbecue meal for 6 or an item from a foreign country or homemade cinnamon rolls or free lawn mowing or... If you have something you want to donate, please call Carol Entz at 283-0525.

NT CRISPR Challenge 44.4 (Week 16)—**March 31** Romans 15:1-16:27; **April 1** 1 Corinthians 1:1-2:16 ; **April 2** 1 Corinthians 3:1-4:21; **April 3** 1 Corinthians 5:1-6:20; **April 4** 1 Corinthians 7:1-40; **April 5** 1 Corinthians 8:1-9:27; **April 6** 1 Corinthians 10:1-11:16. April calendars are available in the Church Office.

Community Announcements

MCC Lunch & Learn on April 2, 1:00 PM, at MCC in North Newton! Together with Mennonite Mission Network, we will host Willi Hugo Perez, director of SEMILLA Latin American Anabaptist Seminary in Guatemala City, Guatemala. SEMILLA is a school that emerged as a beacon of peace, justice and community building in the context of systemic violence and oppression. Join us to learn more! Lunch will be provided by donation; please RSVP by March 28 to patsydirksen@mcc.org or 283-2720, and let Patsy know if you have food allergies.

The Kidron Bethel Parkinson's Support Group will meet Tuesday, April 2, 2:00 PM, in Menno Hall. Chaplain Eric Massanari will facilitate a reflection and discussion on making room for grief as we live with the realities of chronic, debilitating illness.

2nd Annual Bluestem Communities PACE Race—Saturday, April 6, 9:00 AM. Enjoy a flat, beautiful course through McPherson, KS. Registration and more details at: bluestempace.org/events.

The Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus will be in concert at Tabor College in Hillsboro on Sunday, April 7, 7:00 PM. They will also be in concert at Bethel College in Memorial Hall on Sunday, April 14, 7:00 PM.

MCC Relief Sale Opportunity: Feeding the Multitude needs your help! We are looking for waiters, tray wipers, table clearers, drink pourers, and more on Saturday, April 13! The morning shift is 10:15-11:45 AM and the afternoon shift 11:30-1:00 PM. Please contact Asia Frye at asiafrye@hotmail.com to sign up!

Everence will hold informative Medicare workshops at its offices in North Newton and Hutchinson in April. Attendees will learn about the various Medicare plans and what they cover; plans that supplement Medicare; and enrollment details and

deadlines. The North Newton presentation will be held at 3179 N. Main St. on Tuesday, April 2, 6:30 PM. The Hutchinson presentation will be held at 524 E. 30th Ave. on Thursday, April 11, 6:30 PM. Space is limited. Reserve your spot soon by contacting Michelle Ramer at (316) 283-3800; (877) 467-7294 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

Nancy Sprowell Geise, author of the biography, *Auschwitz #34207: The Joe Rubinstein Story*, will share about the Holocaust survivor's story and her relationship with him on Tuesday, April 2, 7:00 PM, at Hesston Mennonite Church. A reception and chance to meet the author will follow the presentation.

Bethel College Women's Chorus spring concert will be on Sunday, April 7, 4:00 PM at Bethel College Mennonite Church.

Men and Boys Retreat is April 5-7 at Camp Mennoscah. It is a retreat for all ages of men and boys. Brad Roth will be our speaker for the weekend. There is no pre-registration, but lodging is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Saturday supper is the first meal provided. Questions? Contact Kevin Neufeld at 316-322-5515 or kevinneufeld2@gmail.com.

Explore the global issue of fast fashion by watching the documentary film *True Cost* at MCC in North Newton on April 9, 7:00 PM. Directed by Andrew Morgan, the film looks at environmental, social and psychological aspects of consumerism and mass media focused on the global garment industry. Also hear briefly from MCC about how our thrift shop network is working to reduce the harms caused by fast fashion, here and around the world. Light snacks will be provided while you watch the movie. Questions? Contact sarahfleming@mcc.org.

New Hope Shelter's 3rd Annual Kickin' & Screamin' Kickball Tournament Fundraiser—April 27. Team and player forms can be found at newhope-shelter.org/kickin-screamin or call New Hope at 283-7711. Registration ends April 24. Open to all ages!

Love Crosses Borders: A Mennonite Men immersion experience with immigrants. Love is the greatest of all virtues. But what does love look like in times of cynicism and polarization? Borders are not only social constructs, they're also spiritual ones. Who's included? Who's excluded? How do we reconcile God's call to welcome the stranger with so much fear-filled rhetoric and policies? What can unwelcomed immigrants teach the Church about love? How can the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement inform and inspire us to a love that crosses borders? July 28-August 3, Mennonite Men will provide a week-long immersion experience with immigrants to engage these issues. To register or for more information, visit MennoniteMen.org or contact Steve Thomas at SteveT@Mennonites.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 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!

First Mennonite Church by the numbers

Attendance:

•Worship—198; Sunday School—176; Visitors—1

Offering: The offering for Local Mission on March 24 was \$8,712. The offering for April 7 is for Mennonite Mission Network.

The buckets will be passed today during the offering time to collect loose change for the relief work of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). The buckets will be passed each week until the MCC Sale on April 12 and 13.

Willi Hugo Pérez is Director of the Latin American Anabaptist Seminary (SEMILLA), a Mennonite Mission Network partner organization. With his leadership, SEMILLA has been able to draw together 12 different Anabaptist conferences from Mexico to Panama to study at Bible Institute and higher levels. In 2018 about 560 students participated in the basic formation programs or Bible Institutes associated with SEMILLA and 227 in the higher-level programs. With on-line courses, SEMILLA has the potential to reach many more students. For the churches of the region, SEMILLA has played a critical role in developing leaders who understand Scripture from an Anabaptist perspective. Welcome, Brother Willi Hugo!

As of March 24 our income is \$87,482. Our expenses for that period of time are \$106,888. This means that we have spent \$19,406 more than we have received. Please continue to keep the Local Missions Fund in your thoughts and prayers. We appreciate your generous contributions to the fund. ~Dewayne Pauls, Treasurer

FMC's Story in Photos—What are the origins of First Mennonite in Newton? Within the 140-year existence of the congregation, what challenges have occurred? What highlights? Get familiar with FMC's story by viewing the photo exhibit which is now in the display cabinets. Start at the cabinet outside the Church Office, go to the two corner units and then finish at cabinet outside the Library. (Thanks to Ron Dietzel for this display.)

Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania is inviting sister churches to a special farewell service for Pastor Jaime Cázares, Suhelen and their family **today at 4:00 PM**. A meal will be served following the service. Those who wish to bring something may bring salads,