

New Beginnings

Come, walk in the way of God's heart

January 1, 2017

Gathering

Prelude Organist/Pianist: Amanda Rempel

The work of the people (announcements)
(Please pass the welcome pads)

Call to worship scripture video

Opening Prayer..... Pastor Kay Schroeder

Praising

Lighting of the Advent candles Sarah Koehn

Songs of faith: *Come, Light of the world*
Fling wide the door, unbar the gate! *H 186

Greet one another; children come forward

Children's focus Andrea Regier

Songs of faith: *Dakota Hymn*
I Heard It From Heaven Today

Offering: Local Mission
Offertory

Confessing/Reconciling

Prayer of confession

One: *Renewing God,*

Many: **we yearn to walk in your way**

but often choose our own path of turmoil and pain.

.....
Save us, Lord,

from the pride and foolishness of choosing our own course,

that we may humbly and confidently

follow your lead,

through Jesus Christ, Amen.

One: Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put new and right spirits within us.

Many: **Do not cast us away from Your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from us.**

Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and sustain in us a willing spirit.

Songs of faith: *Create in me a clean heart*

Words of assurance

One: Throughout the tumult of life,

God holds you close in love.

Rejoice, because God's wisdom is your guide,

God's compassion is your strength.

God's love is your redemption.

All: **Come, let us walk in the way of God's heart!**

Hearing God's Word

Sermon: *NEW Beginning (again)* Pastor Joel Schroeder

Scripture: Colossians 3:1-4..... Dan Miller
Colossians 3:12-17..... Wendy Schrag
2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Responding to God's Word

Congregational response:

One: With one voice, let us glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Many: **We will speak of the glory of God's kingdom, and tell of God's power.**

One: The Son is the radiance of God's glory, and he is the manifestation of the Father.

Many: **In Christ, the complete being of the Godhead dwells.**

One: The incarnation of Christ has brought the divine into our midst.

Many: **God's love was revealed among us in this way; God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. Amen.**

(From *Words for Worship* edited by Arlene M. Mark, Scottsdale: Herald Press, 1996.)

Song of faith: *This is a day of new beginnings* H 640

Pastoral prayer

Sending

Sending song: *New earth, heavens new* H 299

Blessing

Postlude

*H denotes Hymnal: A Worship Book

Visuals: Carol Hiebert, Janet Franz, Cindy Unruh Chorister: Paul Schrag Guitar: Ben Regier
HAT: Carol Gerbrand, Wendy Schrag, Dan Miller, Rannie Goering Audio Tech: Larry Becker
Video/Lighting Tech: Tyler Shelly Ushers: Rick Ortman, Rod Schmidt, Donnie Kingsley
Childcare: Phil/Linda Gaertner, Justen Schroeder

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, January 1—New Year’s—New Beginnings

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service

Monday, January 2

Jail Ministry: Gary and Ruby Moore, Arlen Wiens
Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 4

7:00 PM Youth Group

Thursday, January 5

7:00 PM Nurture Commission

Sunday, January 8—Epiphany and Communion

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service

May the Lord bless you and keep you—in this new year!
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you—in this new year!
May the Lord turn his face to you
and give you peace—in this new year!

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 Dora Voth (Library display case), Ivan and Janice Welty (Court Area display case), and FMC 2016 highlights (middle cases). Take a look at the display cases and learn more about each family.

First Mennonite Church by the numbers

Attendance:

- Worship—198; Visitors—18
- Sunday School; Christmas Eve—319

Offering: Last week’s offering for Local Mission was \$7,951. The offering for January 1 is for Mennonite Mission Network.

Pastor Anita will be out of the office until January 5.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 2, in observance of the holiday.

Congratulations to the 3rd through-5th grade Sunday School classroom which completed their offering puzzle on Sunday, December 18! A total of \$59.61 has been collected by this classroom with two months remaining in the Camp Mennoscah fund raiser. Their completed puzzle has been placed in the commons area.

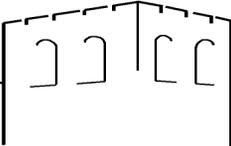
Please help make FMC a safe place for everyone. To keep everyone safe at First Mennonite, you are asked to make sure all doors are locked if you are the last one to leave the building; to lock the doors during your meeting; to provide door "hosts/monitors" during your events; and to call 911 if you encounter someone in the church who makes you feel uncomfortable or is exhibiting strange behavior.

Be sure to stop by the bulletin board and see the thank you card that was sent to us from Rod Pauls.

Radical Hospitality Sunday School will resume next Sunday, January 8 at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to join this group.



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Pastoral Team	
Anita Kehr, Pastor	316-283-5598
Joel Schroeder, Pastor of Youth and Young Adults.....	316-215-2497
Kay Schroeder, Pastor of Worship and Visitation	316-217-1272
Administrative Assistant	
Tracy Kerr.....	316-283-0273
Custodian	
Gordon Flickner	316-217-1346

Jennifer Kaufman, MCC SALT in Bolivia—The Outreach Commission encourages you to share blessings with Jennifer via letter, email, or Facebook. If you would like to write a note, simply bring it to the office and we'll mail it. Jennifer said it could take one week to two months for her to get mail. Jennifer's email is jenniferkaufman@mcc.org. Or look for her on Facebook and ask to join the Talita Cumi Facebook page. Thanks for your support and prayers of Jennifer! You can learn more through Jennifer's blog - jenniferkaufmanbolivia.wordpress.com.

Newton Community for Racial Justice will have a anti-racism training. The training will be held February 17-19, 2017, at the Newton Recreation Center. If you have any questions or to request a registration form, please visit the Roots of Justice website at rootsofjusticetraining.org. Cost per participant is \$250 if registered by January 9, 2017. **Are you interested in the Anti-Racism Training Feb 17-19?** Outreach Commission is providing scholarships, which will cover part or the whole cost. Talk with Miriam Regier by January 1, if you would like a scholarship. You can reach Miriam at miriam.regier@gmail.com or (316) 734-8705.

The Property Committee needs your help to maintain our facility! There are several projects that need completing, and we want you to have the opportunity to help. We need help with raking leaves around the church building and in the flower beds, painting the walls and ceiling in the balcony classroom, and installing pipe insulation and replacing a few ceiling tiles in the Jr. High room. Contact Jordan Miller, Alan Entz, Clint Litsey, Ryan Nye, or Rod Schmidt for more information.

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.

Greeters Needed. Are you friendly, helpful, and outgoing? Do you have a good "grip"? We are looking for a few good people to be on our team of greeters for Sunday morning services. You only have to work once a month and there are no committee meetings! Pay is far below minimum wage, but the benefits are great! Contact Brent Voran for an interview.

Mark your calendars:

- ⇒ January 25—Church Family Night meals and activities resume
- ⇒ January 28 (8 am– noon)—All Commissions and Committees' Retreat
- ⇒ February 12—The first Seconds @ FIRST Potluck of 2017

SR. HIGH YOUTH

*Together in Christ: rooted deeply,
reaching widely, loving well.*



Wednesday, January 4

▶▶ 6:25—PIZZA!!

▶▶ 7:00 pm—Youth Group Brainstorming and planning for upcoming AWESOME Youth Group gatherings! See Wednesday!



Sunday, January 8

▶▶ 4:32 pm—Partnering With Parents ALL PARENTS of youth are encourage to participate in this brainstorming and planning gathering for up-coming fundraisers, events, and summer mission trip.

Community Announcements

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP—The Parkinson's Support Group will meet Tuesday, January 3, 2:00 PM, in Menno Hall at Kidron Bethel Village. The program will include time for sharing in small groups on topics related to Parkinson's Disease.

Bethel College is offering many of its classes for community audit. You pay \$50 per credit hour (compared to the normal audit rate of \$85 per hour) OR, if you're age 62 and older, a flat rate of \$30. For more information, go to bethelks.edu/audit, where there are links for **interterm 2017 course schedule** (enrollment deadline is **January 4**) and **spring 2017 course schedule** (enrollment deadline **February 13**).

Circles of Hope, Harvey County will host our first ever soup supper and dessert auction on Tuesday, January 31, at the First United Methodist Church, 801 N. Main, Newton, Kansas. Enjoy a delicious dinner from 5:30 to 6:15 PM at our by-donation soup supper and then make your bid on some mouth-watering desserts from 6:15 to 7:30 PM, with guest auctioneer Mike Flavin! All proceeds benefit Circles of Hope, a relationship-based initiative aimed at helping families achieve financial stability through education and community support.

Join MCC on a Learning Tour to Kenya February 27-March 11, 2017! Tour highlights include seeing a sand dam in action, learning more about sustainable food projects, meeting the kids at MCC-supported education programs and enjoying a one-day safari. Contact Anna Yoder at annayoder@mcc.org or 316-283-2720 for more information.

Kauffman Museum at Bethel College seeks artifacts, letters, photos and documents that tell the story of conscientious objectors during World War I. To learn more, or if you have an item for donation or long-term loan, please contact museum director Annette LeZotte at alezotte@bethelks.edu or 316-283-1612.