

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

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

7:45 AM Outreach, Mission and Peace Commission

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service

**Monday, April 10**

Jail Ministry: Gary Moore

**Wednesday, April 12**

7:00 PM Youth Group

7:00 PM Choir

**Thursday, April 13**

7:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service—Sanctuary

**Friday, April 14**

Good Friday—Church Office closed

**Saturday, April 15**

8:30 AM Men's Grubfast—John Good's house

**Sunday, April 16**—Easter: Restore us, O God! We live!

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service

**Upcoming Worship Services**

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: Carol Entz

Musicians: Ben Regier; Dwayne Abrahams, Ken Regier, Austin Regier, Tim Regier

Ushers: Bob Schmidt, Brian Walker, Heath Kerr, Donnie Kingsley

Childcare: Chris or Stephanie Weaver, Brooklyn Black

Audio Tech: Ron Bachman Video/Lighting Tech: Eugene Waltner

Visuals: Carol Hiebert

# Palm Sunday



## Hosanna!

## Restore us, O God!

**Focus statement: April 9, 2017**

Our human society values status, power, wealth, and success. God turns things upside down by becoming one of us, taking the role of a humble servant. In hope, we shout praise that God can deliver us, even while we ask, "Who is this?"

**First Mennonite Church  
Newton, KS**



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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

<p><b>Administrative Assistant</b></p> <p>Tracy Kerr ..... 316-283-0273</p>	<p><b>Custodian</b></p> <p>Gordon Flickner ..... 316-217-1346</p>
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# Restore us, O God! We hope. Sunday, April 9, 2017

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## Gathering

**Prelude**..... Amanda Rempel, organist

**Gathering song:** *Come, let us worship and bow down*

**Welcome and gathering prayer**..... Penny Dorado, worship leader

**The work of the people (announcements)**

**Scripture reading:** Matthew 21:1-11

**Processional litany:**

Leader: Who is this who comes, humble and riding on a donkey?

**All: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Leader: Who is this who comes, free from pride and hubris?

**All: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Leader: Who is this who comes, celebrated by powerless children?

**All: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Leader: Hosanna! Come join in the celebration of hope!

## Praising

**Processional of children with palm branches**

**Songs of faith:** *Hosanna*

*Holy Spirit, come with power*

**Greet one another; children come forward**

**Children's focus** ..... Stefanie Knopp

**Offering:** Local Mission

**Offertory**

(Please pass the welcome pads)

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

## Confession and Words of Assurance

Leader: Jesus, our Lord, you came to us humbly—riding on a donkey.

In peace, you showed us the way of your kingdom.

We confess that our vision of the kingdom is not pure.

It is stained with our own selfish desires.

**People: We shout hosannas to praise you,**

**—only out of our need to survive.**

**We lay down our cloaks and palms to adore you,**

**—only to strip your garment away and humiliate you.**

Leader: Forgive us, O Lord, when our mouths that seek to praise you often

deny and defy you.

**People: Renew in us an obedient spirit,**

**that we may fully accept and follow your will.**

*(Pause for silent confession)*

Leader: God, our true Hope,

**All: restore us.**

Leader: Our times are in your hands, O God. Let your face shine upon your servants

who pursue your will, and save us in your unfailing love.

**Songs of faith:** *Wait alone in stillness*

*Do it all*

## Hearing God's Word

**Scripture:** Philippians 2:5-11

**Sermon:** *Who is this?*..... Pastor Kay Schroeder

## Responding to God's Word

**Song of faith:** *Hosanna, loud hosanna* ..... \*H 238

**Pastoral prayer** ..... Pastor Anita Kehr

## Sending

**Sending song:** *Ride on, ride on in majesty* ..... H 239

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

**The April Seconds @ FIRST** potluck will be on April 23 to coincide with the Spring Congregational Meeting and carry-in meal.

**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. The contents for the MCC school kits are very specific – 4 notebooks, 8 unsharpened pencils, large eraser, 12"/30 cm ruler and 12 colored pencils (no markers). Check the box in the foyer or the bulletin board in the basement by the Fellowship Hall for examples. Thank you for supporting MCC and our children.

**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.

**Maundy Thursday**—Please make plans to attend the Maundy Thursday service this Thursday, 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!

**Guys Grubfest will meet** at the home of John Good on April 15, 8:30 AM. Men of all ages are welcome. Bring your favorite grub for a time of food and comradery.

## SR. HIGH YOUTH

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

### TODAY! Sunday, April 9

- ▶▶ 9:15 AM—Sunday School
- ▶▶ 10:30 AM—Worship Service

### Wednesday, April 12

- ▶▶ 7:02 PM— ALL YOUTH and PARENTS of youth are requested to gather in the youth room for a special conversation about the Youth Auction, the DOOR Summer Mission Trip, and the desire to provide a safe place of caring for our on-going ministry together.



**COMING  
EVENTS**

April 19—Youth Auction Prep Night

April 26—Bi-annual Youth Group Auction

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



**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!

**A carry-in dinner** is planned for Sunday, April 23, prior to the spring congregational meeting. Please bring food dishes to share and your tableware. Drinks will be provided.

**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.

**Youth Group Meal and Auction—Wednesday, April 26.** Only two and a half weeks left before the big auction! Everyone is welcome! We are having a meal before the auction at 6:00 PM which the youth and sponsors are preparing. So come eat for free! Let Carol Entz, 283-0525, know this week if you haven't got your items on the auction list yet. Babysitting will be provided all evening.

**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/](http://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.**

### Community Announcements

**We are putting in the dam!** Come to Camp Mennoscah today, 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!

**Bethel College Women's Chorus** spring concert is today, 4:00 PM in the Administration Building chapel.

**The Community Good Friday service** sponsored by the Newton Ministerial Alliance will take place Friday, April 14, at 7:00 PM at Grace Community Church.

**We need volunteers in Ashland, KS** on Saturday, April 15, working from about 8:00 AM-5:00 PM. A group of about 30 is needed along with skid steers and A/UTV's. Work will consist of cleaning up barbed wire fence. Transportation, lunch, water and tools will all be

provided. Also, there is a need for several skid steers to be used in the area for the next 6-8 weeks. If you know of an individual or company that would be willing to provide this please let me know. Volunteers should call, text or email with their availability to Jordan Miller at 316-217-4570 or jordanmiller795@gmail.com .

**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.

**Shalom Mennonite Church is hosting** a Community Conversation on Immigration on Saturday, April 22, 10:00 AM-12 noon. It will be a moderated panel discussion with a question and answer time to follow. The discussion will focus on the panelists' general perspectives on issues that affect refugees and immigrants in Kansas and Harvey County. Confirmed panel participants are Bob Myers (Newton City Manager) and Tim Hodge (State Representative). If you have questions about the event you can contact Shalom at office@shalomnewton.org.

**Bluestem Communities Independent Living** will have an open house on April 23, 1:00-3:00 PM. Kidron Bethel Village, North Newton tour begins at 15 Lakewood Circle. Schowalter Villa, Hesston tour begins at Water's Edge Lobby, 701 S. Main.

**Rooted and Grounded: A conference on land and Christian discipleship**—April 20–22 at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana. Imagine and embody alternative ways of relating to the land that cultivate shalom between human beings, the rest of creation and God. This three-day event will weave together worship, theology, biblical study and praxis. Keynote speakers are Sarah Augustine, Dr. Stanley Saunders and Todd Wynward. Cost: \$100/standard, \$25/students. For more information: [ambs.edu/rootedandgrounded](http://ambs.edu/rootedandgrounded).

**The Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus** will be in concert at Pressor Hall in Lindsborg on Sunday, April 30, at 4:30 PM. They will also be in concert at Hesston High School on Sunday, May 7, at 7:00 PM.

**Everence Financial will provide information** about Medicare and retirement income at three upcoming seminars. The Medicare seminars will be held on April 17 and May 1 and will include what Medicare covers, the differences between plans that supplement Medicare, and enrollment deadlines. The retirement income seminar, held on June 5, will help you determine if you have enough money to retire, what to do if the market doesn't cooperate and how to know if your savings will last. Seminars are held at 7:00 PM at the Everence office in Hesston. To reserve your spot, contact Michelle Ramer at (620) 327-4043 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

**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—224; Visitors—6
- Sunday School—202

**Offering:** Last week's offering for Mennonite Mission Network is \$2,709 and \$5,275 for Local Mission. The offering for April 16 is for Local Mission.

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

**Palm Branch Processional**—Children ages two through grade six are invited to participate in our palm branch processional today. When announced from the pulpit, the children should exit the sanctuary at the west door and gather in the Court Area to receive their palm branches. (Parents, please accompany your little ones if necessary.) Children will parade down the main aisle and side aisles and then return to the front for the children's focus.

**Dear New Life Fellowship Sunday School Family**—Thank you soooo much with helping my family clean out Dad's basement, garage and miscellaneous items in his home. I was told that we would receive help from 8-10 people, but 22 showed up. Thank you to Judy Schrag and John Good who also helped: Judy with her wonderful cinnamon rolls and John with his truck. Andrew thanks you for allowing him to ride to the dump, which was the highlight of his day! You made a difficult situation so much better. You all have been a blessing to us in so many ways and we are truly thankful for your love and support shown to us over the past years. It is so hard to ask for help, but so very much appreciated. In Christian Love,  
~Sammie and Robin Simmons and the Walker Family

**Thank you to everyone** who contributed or donated items to the MCC Sale.

~Gary and Ruby Moore

**All those who missed the celebration event** on Saturday missed a special event. We want to thank all who helped with the celebration by sharing their hobbies, talents, the delicious food and by setting up the displays. This was the third stewardship celebration. Each one has been different. Those who attended learned to know each other in a new and different way. We thank the celebration committee for all the work that they put into planning and executing the event.

~Judy Murphy, celebration chair and Dewayne Pauls, Stewardship chair