

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, August 20—Faith Commitments

- 9:15 AM Sunday School—FH for all adult classes—Safe Sanctuary Training
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 6:00 PM Baptisms—Camp Mennoscah

Monday, August 21

- 7:00 PM Property Committee

Wednesday, August 23

- Homeless Shelter Week Begins
- 7:00 PM Congregational Processing Meeting—FH

Sunday, August 27—Children’s Day Celebration

- 10:00 AM—Children’s Day Celebration (No Sunday School)
- 11:30 AM—Carry-in Meal—FH
- 12:30-2:30 PM—Activities
- 5:30-7:30 PM—Activities at Don and Rachel Horst’s barn

OUR VISION—Together in Christ: rooted deeply, reaching widely, loving well

OUR MISSION—With Jesus as our center, we are called to be:

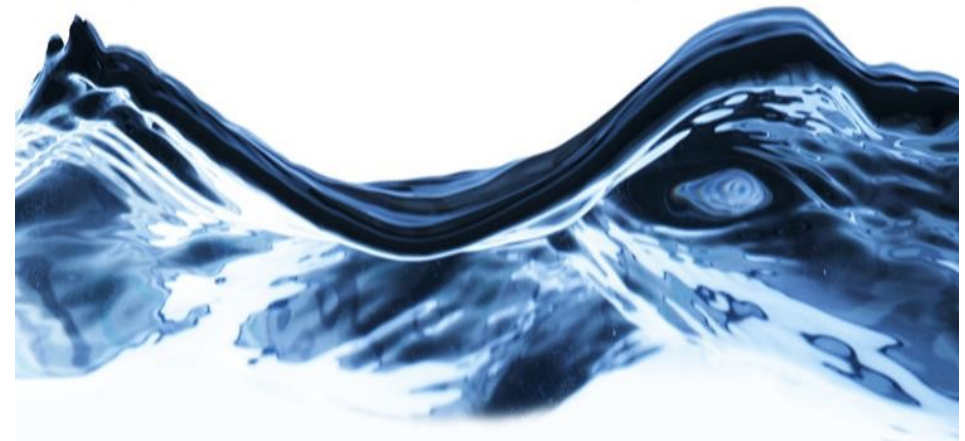
- Faith-Focused
- Mission-Minded
- Community-Connected

Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:4

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20



CELEBRATING BAPTISM

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

AUGUST 20, 2017



FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

PO Box 291, 429 E. First Street, Newton, KS 67114-0291

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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

Faith Commitments

Sunday, August 20, 2017

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Gathering

Prelude: Donna Stucky, organist/pianist

Gathering song: *Light a candle for peace*

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

Call to worship Keith Knopp, worship leader

Opening prayer

Praising

Songs of faith: *Come, let us all unite to sing* *H 12
The love of God **CS 92

Greet one another; children come forward

Children's focus Renee Hamm

Dedication prayer for the school kits

Kingdom happening: Litany of dedication for Christian Education workers for the coming year (see insert)

Song of faith: *O God, your constant care*H 481

Offering: Local Mission
Offertory

Hearing God's Word

Baptism testimonies: Bentley Hiebert and Ryan Weaver

Scripture: 1 John 4:7-21

Meditation: *Loving Back* Pastor Anita Kehr

Responding to God's Word

Song of faith: *Lord, I am fondly, earnestly* H 514

Pastoral prayer Pastor Kay Schroeder

Sending

Sending blessing

Sending song: *You shall go out with joy* H 427

Peace Pole Rededication: Proceed to the front lawn
(see bulletin insert)

*H denotes Hymnal: A Worship Book **CS denotes Companion Songbook
Chorister: Daryl Unruh
Ushers: Gus Dorado, Ray Franz, Mike Garcia, Andrea Regier
Childcare: Greg or Laura Myers, Madelynn Hamm
Audio Tech: Tim Regier Video/Lighting Tech: Alex Goering
Visuals: Carol Hiebert

The hand print quilts from the 2002, 2008, 2012 and 2017 summer Sunday Schools are on display. Young adults, check out how your hand has grown through the years.

Homeless Shelter—Our next week to serve the Harvey County Homeless Shelter is August 23-29. If you are able to help, contact Lee Penner at 316-284-2154 or Ruby Moore at 620-837-4876.

The Church Board invites you to join us on Wednesday, August 23, 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall for a time of listening and responding. We will have round table discussions to listen to each other with questions to help guide our time together. This will be the first of three meetings that the board will sponsor as we process the GRACE report and discern next steps.

Looking for on-going generosity—For the 2017-2018 school year, the congregation's generosity made it possible for the Scholarship Committee to grant awards to 20 students—17 full time and 3 part time—who are enrolled in Mennonite Christian affiliated schools. From existing funds, \$7,763 went to 7 schools for the 2017 fall semester. \$8,213 will be needed for the Spring 2018 semester. Your on-going contributions during the coming months will help replenish the Scholarship Fund in order to have an adequate amount for the spring semester. On behalf of the students, the Scholarship Committee says *Thank you* to all those who help meet this need.

The family of LaWanda Wiens invites you to a celebration of her 90th birthday on Sunday, August 27. The open house will be 1:00-3:00 PM, in the Community Room at Kidron Bethel Village (500 Bluestem). No gifts please.

The Allies group, which supports people with various sexual identities and their families and friends, will be meeting today, 4:00 PM at Frances Schrag's home (520 W 9th Street).

Adult Sunday School classes! The Outreach, Missions, and Peace Commission is putting on a 4-week adult Sunday School class in January 2018 called *Christianity & Islam: Working Together Towards Peace*. Consider joining us for this relevant and informative class as we learn the basics of Islam (so we can ask better questions) and find out how some Christians and Muslims are working together in Wichita and around the world for peace and mutual respect. We are letting you know early so you can consider this option as you order Sunday School curriculum in September. Please email andrea.and.ben@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

Safe sanctuaries/healthy boundaries books: Jennie Wintermote, who is the WDC Resource Library Director, has pulled around 50 books to circulate through our church library on the topic of safe sanctuaries. There are children's books and books for parents on healthy boundaries, keeping secrets, saying no, healthy sexuality, and more. These books are on a cart in our library and available for checkout for the next 2 months.

The Property Committee needs your help to maintain our facility! There are projects that need completing, and we want you to have the opportunity to help. We need help with installing pipe insulation, replacing a few ceiling tiles in the Jr. High room and cleaning windows. Contact Jordan Miller, Alan Entz, Clint Litsey, Ryan Nye, or Rod Schmidt for more information.

Community Announcements

Circle of Grace training—On Thursday, August 24, there is a Circle of Grace training at the MCC Center from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. The training helps those working with children understand the Circle of Grace curriculum and how to implement this important resource for child protection. Cost is \$20.00 per person. To register email: kathywiens59@gmail.com or call 316-587-7244.

The Newton Et Cetera Shop is hiring a bilingual sorter/receiver for 20-30 hours/week. The sorter/clerk receives and sorts donations, focusing on clothing; assists Spanish-speaking customers and donors; and helps to translate written documents. The full job description and applications are available via e-mail at generalmanager@newtonetceterashop.com or at the store (619 N. Main in Newton). Applications can be submitted in person to the general manager or by e-mail.

Registration is now open for the Women's/Girls Retreat (3rd grade and up) at Camp Mennoscah September 8-10. Our theme is "Together: Rooted and Reaching" with Barb Krehbiel Gehring as our featured speaker. Retreat schedules and registration forms are available in the church office or available to print at: mennowdc.org/calendar/. We will celebrate 100 years of Mennonite Women organizations through stories and a hymn sing Friday evening. There will be no separate girls' programming this year, so girls should register for Saturday morning and afternoon activities and seminars.

The annual MCC Flatlander Bike Ride will be held on Saturday, September 16, originating at the MCC offices, 121 E. 30th Street, North Newton. This year's ride will raise funds for a MCC water development project in India. Informational brochures are available at the church office or on the MCC website: mcc.org/get-involved/events/mcc-flatlander-bicycle-ride.

Thank you times a gazillion! To all those who volunteered this summer, whether as a cook, counselor, or general helper, we offer you deep, heart-felt, to the moon and back thank you's for being at Camp Mennoscah. You are the people that make it possible for our camping ministry to reach so many campers. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE—IBA BENEFIT DINNER—The annual Instituto Bíblico Anabautista (IBA) benefit dinner will take place Friday, September 15, 6:30 PM, here at FMC. A smothered pork burrito dinner will be prepared and served by Chef Carlos Lujano. A short program will follow. Dinner is by donation. For any inquires contact Violeta Ajquejay at: VioletaA@MennoniteEducation.org or call 316-281-4342.

Searching for an exciting way to serve? MCC is urgently searching for a Canner Operator, with CDL truck driving experience, to travel with the mobile cannery before the season begins in October. Canner Operators travel to 30 different locations in the United States and Canada, canning meat, which is then sent around the world to hungry people. For more information please contact John Hillegass at johnhillegass@mcc.org or (717) 859-1151.

Registration is now open—Saturday, November 18, 4th Biennial Worship and the Arts Symposium at Bethel College. *Seasons of the Soul: Enacting the Mystery of Faith*, with special guest presenter and resource person Ted Swartz. Symposium registration includes Swartz's performance of *Slightly Left of Normal* on Friday, November 17, in Krehbiel Auditorium (admission charge for non-symposium registrants). Registration discount for groups of 3 or more from a single congregation. For a complete schedule and online registration, see bethelks.edu/worshiparts.

There's a new hymnal in the works! As the task force sponsored by MennoMedia plans for the new collection, they want to hear from you. Go to MennoMedia.org/Resonate and click on the "Heart Song Survey" link in the individual input section, or go directly to the survey at: surveymonkey.com/r/MWSC_Heart_Song. What are the songs that draw you farther along in your journey of faith?

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 Joey and Amanda Menninga and family (Court Area display case); Ron and Deb Ratzlaff and family (Library display case); Tonessa Driskill (Court Area display case); and Charles and Romielda Wilmore (Court Area display case). Take a look at these display cases and learn more!

First Mennonite Church by the numbers

Attendance:

- Worship—224 Visitors—21
- Sunday School—213

Offering: Last week's offering for Local Mission was \$6,547. The offering for August 27 is for Local Mission.

Receiving or has received care—Vernon Frey, NMC Rehab

Thank you so very much for the cards, food, get well wishes, visits and prayers while I recovered from knee surgery. Your kindness is much appreciated.
~LaVerna Schierling

You are invited to check out the display in the Court Area from the summer peace Sunday School for the elementary-aged children. Thank you for your prayers on behalf of the children of our church.

Baptism Celebration

Today, 6:00 PM at Camp Mennoscah

Ryan Weaver and Bentley Hiebert will be sharing their testimonies during the worship service today. Then everyone is invited to gather to witness and celebrate their baptism as a public confession of their faith at 6:00 PM today at Camp Mennoscah. **Remember the detour to Camp Mennoscah—**Smoots Creek Bridge, located directly south of US-54, is being replaced. To find a map and alternate routes visit: campmennoscah.org/contact/. Scroll to the bottom of the page and you will find directions.

Sunday School Teachers
Nursery-High School
2017-2018

Nursery: Kathleen Andres, Shirley Dietzel

Beginners: (Rooms 223-232) Ruth Abrahams, Rachel Koehn
Helpers: Dwayne Abrahams, Rhonda Brown, Lori Kingsley, Kathleen Neff, Roxane Pohl, Frances Schrag

Preschool/Kindergarten (Room 234) Sheralyn Goering, Amanda Menninga, Kiley Schmidt
Helpers: Wenda Black, Melody Enns, Jenna Ratzlaff, Geraldine Wiebe

Grade 1, Grade 2 (Rooms 318-319) Renee Hamm, Cora Voran
Helpers: Esther Epp, Pam Garcia, Doug Pauls, Amy Regier

Grade 3, Grade 4, Grade 5 (Rooms 315-317) Angela Black, Jo Frye
Helpers: Beverley Buller, Mary Lou Schmidt, Laura Myers

Grade 6, Grade 7, Grade 8 (Room 126) Amanda Entz, Bryan Kehr, Chris Weaver
Helpers: Paul Buller, Judy Murphy, Deb Penner, Bob Schmidt

High School (Rooms 122-124) Bev Regier, Dwight Regier, Ken Regier, B.J. Stahly

Statisticians: Ken Bachman, Larry Entz, Loren Entz, Rick Ortman

Christian Education Workers Litany

From Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Proverbs 3:13, 18

Leader: Hear, O children of God. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. At the beginning of a new year of learning and growing in faith...

Congregation: We will remember to love God with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our might.

Leader: Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children.

Adults: We will talk about them when we are at home and when we are away, when we lie down and when we rise.

We shall tell the stories of God's presence with us, our stories of faith. We will encourage the faith of our children and invite them to journey with God.

Leader: Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding. Wisdom is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy.

Congregation: We commit ourselves to learn. We commit ourselves to seek and to be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Passing on the faith needs to be done in partnership.

Congregation: As a congregation we promise to help each other, to nurture faith in all.

Teachers: We promise to love God and the students committed to our care. Let God be our guide.

All: May God bless all of us as we seek to grow in faith.

Children's Day Celebration

Sunday, August 27

10:00 AM—Worship Service

Come as a Child—What does it mean to be a 'Beloved Child of God'?

- No Sunday School
- Sharing from all ages
- Music for kids of all ages
- Communion
- Children bring your friends



11:30 AM—All church carry-in-lunch

Consider bringing something our children would like (mac & cheese, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches)

- Ask a child what they'd like to eat
- Bring your table service
- Volunteers for activities will eat first



12:30-2:30 PM—Activities for young and older

- Snow cones, musical chairs, scavenger hunt, photo booth, bouncy house, ring toss, and more



TAKE A BREAK AND COME BACK...



5:30-7:30 PM—Celebration continued at Don & Rachel Horst's barn

3910 N. Spencer Rd. Newton

- Cookout provided—bring lawn chairs
- Homemade ice cream
- Music around the campfire
- Hayrack rides
- Children's blessing
- Sign up in the Court Area or call the church office



Rededication of the Peace Pole

Pastor: A prayer for the children of Kosovo and Serbia,
a prayer for the children of Afghanistan and Iraq,
for the children of Israel, Palestine, Syria and Congo.

Directors: A prayer for the children of Littleton and Pittsburgh,
a prayer for the children of Oklahoma City,
New York and Washington, D.C.
A prayer for the children of Hesston, Newton, Sedgwick,
Walton, Halstead and Valley Center.

All: A prayer for all children, Oh Jesus,
who gathered children in your lap.

Today we pray for the children of our church,
for the children of our city, for the children of our world.

May they live without fear of guns and bombs.
May they live without hunger for food or love.
May they live without the shadow of violence
stunting their growth.

May each day bring them enough hugs for a smile,
enough friends for security, enough adults to
provide guidance.

May they grow in faith so that they walk as your children—
children of grace, joy and peace.

Forgive our silence.
Empower us to work with you
to shape a world of justice for all your children.

May we never get in the way of letting
the children come to you.

AMEN

Written by Carmen Schrock-Hurst
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