



## WEEK AT A GLANCE

**Sunday, July 29—*Journey Forward: Identity and Context***—Psalm 24:1-6;

Ephesians 3:14-21

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service

**Tuesday, July 31**

1:00 PM Safety Team Meeting—Warkentin Room

**Thursday, August 1**

7:00 PM Nurture Commission

**Sunday, August 5—*Journey Forward: Follow Jesus***—John 13:34-35 and others

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service

6:30 PM Celebration of God's Goodness and Faithfulness

### Upcoming Worship Services

August 12—*Journey Forward: Witness to God's Peace*

August 19—*Journey Forward: Experience Transformation*

August 26—Worship in the Park—*Some Glad Morning*

**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

### FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

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#### 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



- Identity and Context
- Follow Jesus
- Witness to God's Peace
- Experience Transformation

## FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

429 EAST FIRST STREET • NEWTON, KS 67114 • 316-283-0273

**SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2018**

### **In fulfillment of the Hope Through Understanding Team Report**

recommendation (April 2018, p.7), the Caregiving and Membership Commission will be planning and providing an opportunity early in the new year for the congregation to express, through structured dialogue, the personal impact, challenges, and learnings of the last two years. If you would like to talk prior to this structured dialogue, CMC members are willing and available to listen. Commission members are June Thomsen, Sean Claassen, Renee Hamm, Woody Miller, Cindy Unruh, and Chris Weaver.

**Homeless Shelter**—Our next week to serve New Hope Homeless Shelter is August 8-14. If you are able to help, contact Lee Penner at 316-284-2154 or Ruby Moore at 620-837-4876.

**You're invited to use the** Journey Forward “Pathways” study guide with your Sunday School class or small group. Join in the Journey Forward church-wide renewal process and then explore and highlight ways that God is working in your life and our congregation. Available at: [mennoniteusa.org/pathways](http://mennoniteusa.org/pathways).

**During morning worship July 29-August 19**, we will be exploring some of the Journey Forward themes. The group study enlarges on these themes.

**A new membership exploration class is being formed.** If you have interest in learning more about First Mennonite Church and in exploring the possibility of membership, please talk to Anita Kehr. The class schedule will be made around participants' schedules.

**At the recommendation of the Safety Team**, the Property Committee is asking for your help to keep our facility safe for all who use it. Please check in with the church office if you arrive during business hours. Please also let the church office know ahead of time when you are using the building in the evening, and keep doors locked at all times. You may need to wait by the door until all in your group arrive. If you have questions about this, please contact the church office (and then Tracy can call me!). Thank you.

~Jordan Miller for the Property Committee

**SAVE THE DATE**—Worship in the Park will be Sunday, August 26.

**Cards are available in the pews** for you to share your thoughts, prayer requests, ask for a visit, or whatever you would like to communicate. Remember to sign them and put them in the offering plate.

### **Community Announcements**

**The office of International Student Support** invites you to an informational reception at 4:00 PM, today, in the community center of Hesston Mennonite Church. If you've ever considered hosting a Hesston College international student, here's a chance to learn more and hear from those who have first-hand experience. The occasional challenges of hosting are greatly outweighed by the many rewards. Often the student-host relationship continues beyond graduation. Current international student host families will be on hand to share their experiences with each other and with prospective individuals/families. All previous, current and prospective host family members are encouraged to attend. For more information and to RSVP, contact Carlota Ponds, Director of International Student Support at 620-327-8210 or [carlota.ponds@hesston.edu](mailto:carlota.ponds@hesston.edu).

**The 2018 issue of *Mennonite Life***, Bethel College's annual online journal, is now live at [ml.bethelks.edu](http://ml.bethelks.edu). It includes several papers from the conference Crossing the Line: Women of Anabaptist Traditions Encounter Borders and Boundaries, held at Eastern Mennonite University in June 2017, and from the Mennonites and the Holocaust conference at Bethel in March 2018; Austin Regier's senior thesis on Mennonites in central Kansas; a senior seminar paper on 50 years of the Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus; a look at the closing of Grace University in Omaha, Nebraska; book reviews; and much more.

**Young Adult Retreat at Camp Mennoscah**, August 3-5! All young adults (18 years old and older) are invited to spend a few days at Camp Mennoscah, doing favorite camp activities and luxuriating in nature and the camp community. Register online at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org) and pick your own level of scholarship! It's a grand time for all!

**Kauffman Museum bird walk** will be on Saturday, August 4. Meet at the museum parking lot at 6:30 AM for a walk of 1 to 1.5 hours, with experienced birders along to help locate the birds. Please be aware this is mostly on an unpaved trail and the terrain is sometimes sloping or steep.

**We have a lot to celebrate** this summer at Camp Mennoscah! On August 12, 6:30 PM, we'll gather together at Hesston Mennonite Church to celebrate a summer of friends and faith with our annual Camp Sing. There will be joyous singing followed by popcorn and generic pop—a camp standard! Add Camp Sing to your calendar and we'll see you there!

**Opportunities to learn about immigration and respond with MCC.** MCC works with the issue of migration around the world and walks with people who migrate, people who struggle not to migrate and people who provide hospitality to migrants in many places. **Learn:** Consider participating in the MCC Migration Learning Tour to Guatemala and Honduras on November 7-17. **Pray:** Pray for the migrants who made the difficult choice to leave their home communities in the hope of a better life, for the detained immigrants as they wait in detention and for the border portal agents to execute their job justly and humanely. **Advocate:** Contact your elected officials to express your desire for more humane immigration policies. **Serve:** Become an immigration court watcher through the Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants. **Give:** Support our work to support the reunification of families on the South Texas Border. Within the coming weeks, 1500-2000 families are expected to be released from detention. MCC is working with local partners to support families with locally purchased grocery gift cards, clothing and housing assistance. Checks made out to MCC with "Central States Immigration" in the memo line will go directly to support this response. Checks should be sent to MCC U.S., PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501. Or you can Donate money to MCC for ongoing work with issues surrounding immigration. For more information on how you can get involved, visit [mcc.org/immigration](http://mcc.org/immigration).

**Be Brave, Be Bold, Be You!** Women & Girls Retreat 2018. The schedule and registration forms for the 2018 Women & Girls Retreat, September 7-9 at Camp Mennoscah, are now available in the church office. Rachel Ringenberg Miller, pastor of Shalom Mennonite Church in Newton, will be the featured speaker. Many interesting and fun seminars are planned, along with plenty of time to relax and connect with nature and friends. This retreat is open to all women and girls grade 3 and older. Registration forms are due August 27.

**Join the upcoming MCC Haiti Learning Tour** from September 22 to 27. Learn from Haitian farmers, artisans, community organizers and human rights advocates about how they—with your support—are building a brighter future for their communities. Contact Jordan Penner at [jordanpenner@mcc.org](mailto:jordanpenner@mcc.org) or 316-727-6837 for more information.

**Save the date! September 27–29:** Rooted and Grounded: A Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana. Imagine and embody alternative ways of relating to the land that cultivate *shalom* among human beings, the rest of creation and God. This three-day event will weave together worship, theology, biblical study and praxis. Keynote speakers: Valerie Bridgeman, Ph.D., and Karenn Gore. For more information contact: [ambs.edu/rootedandgrounded](http://ambs.edu/rootedandgrounded).

**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 BJ and Kim Stahly and family (Court Area display case); Phil and Linda Gaertner and family (Library display case) and Shannon Bartel and family (Court Area display case). Take a look at these display cases and learn more!

### **First Mennonite Church by the numbers**

#### **Attendance:**

•Worship—214 Visitors—9 Sunday School—133

**Offering:** Last week's offering for Local Mission was \$6,081. The offering for August 5 is for Mennonite Mission Network.

**Pastor Anita will be** on vacation Friday, July 27-Monday, July 30.

**The Living Stones Sunday School Class** will have speakers during the Sunday School hour for the summer. Everyone is welcome to come and listen. Today the speaker is Eric Murphy. Next Sunday, August 5, the speaker will be from New Hope Homeless Shelter.

**Come celebrate with homemade ice cream and fellowship!** The Church Board is sponsoring an Ebenezer moment: to remember that "thus far the Lord has helped us" (1 Samuel 7:12) and also that the Lord will continue to help us as we go forward. The celebration will be next Sunday, August 5, 6:30-8:00 PM, on the front lawn of the church. Check your church mailboxes for more information. Everyone is welcome to come.

**Have you seen me?** A white dry erase board and tripod is missing from the archive room of the FMC Historical Committee. The white board is approximately 2' x 3'. The tripod is aluminum, has telescoping legs and stands about 6 ft. high. If you have me or know where I am, please return me to the FMC archive room or contact Ron Dietzel Thank you.