

Built on the Rock

February 16, 2020

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Gathering

Gathering song: *Come, we that love the Lord*.....*H 14

Welcome and the work of the people (announcements)

(Please pass the welcome pads)

Opening words Susan Jantzen, pastor

Centering music.....Amanda Entz

Call to worship from Psalm 32 and 119:

One: I will instruct you, and teach you the way you should go.

Many: Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

One: Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding.

**Many: Keep my steps steady according to your promise,
and don't let any kind of sin rule over me.**

One: I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**Many: The unfolding of your words gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.**

**ALL: God, your Word is a lamp unto our feet
and a light unto our path.**

Praising

Songs of faith: *Teach Me Kingdom Ways*..... **CS 23

You are salt for the earth.....H 226

Greet one another; children come forward

Children's focusPeter Wintermote

Offering: Local Mission

Offertory

Offering response: *Obey my voice*..... H 163

Hearing God's Word

Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Matthew 7:24-29..... Brent Voran

Sermon: *Choices*..... Anita Kehr, pastor

Responding to God's Word

Song of response: *My hope is built*..... H 343

Prayers of the church Renee Hamm, Caregiving Commission

Sending

Sending song: *Blest are they* (blue insert)

Benediction

Postlude

*H denotes Hymnal: A Worship Book **CS denotes Companion Songbook

Chorister: Matthew Graber

Childcare: Stephanie Weaver, Lynette Erb, Evelyn Gaertner

Nursery: Shirley Dietzel, Kathleen Andres, Barb Claassen

Ushers: Gus Dorado, Dave Goering, Mike Garcia, Andrea Regier

Audio Tech: Tim Regier

Video/Lighting Tech: Alex Goering

Visuals: Michelle Claassen

Property Committee: Alan Entz

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

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 16—Jesus, Teach Us: Built on the Rock—Matthew 7:24-27

Youth Group Winter Retreat—Camp Mennoscah

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service

Monday, February 17

Youth Group Winter Retreat—Camp Mennoscah

7:00 PM Property Committee

Tuesday, February 18

7:00 PM Caregiving and Membership Commission

Wednesday, February 19—Homeless Shelter week begins

5:30 PM Meal served by In the Word/Koinonia

Menu: Tater Tot Casserole, Chips, Carrots, Ice Cream Sandwiches

6:45 PM Children-ages 2 years to 5th grade—Gather in Room 123

6:45 PM Adult Bible Study

6:45 PM Choir (Sanctuary)

6:45 PM Jr. High (Room 126)

6:45 PM Youth Group (Youth Rooms)

Sunday, February 23—Transfiguration Sunday—Matthew 17:1-9

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service

Upcoming Worship Services

Wednesday, February 26—Ash Wednesday Service—7:30 PM

March 1—First Sunday of Lent



**WE ARE
GOD'S SERVANTS**

SR. HIGH YOUTH



- **Youth Group is at Camp Mennoscah for Winter Retreat this weekend.** Tammy Duvanel-Unruh, our new Interim Youth Coordinator, is joining us. Please pray for the retreat.
- **Mission Night**—Wednesday, February 19. Et Cetera Shop Service Night. Meet in youth room at 6:15 PM (note time change!) or at Et Cetera after 6:30 PM.
- **Looking Ahead: Verenike Supper**—March 11, 2020.

Transition information: Good news! Tammy Duvanel Unruh has accepted the quarter-time interim youth ministry coordinator position!! She met with the Youth Group this Wednesday and is with them at their Winter Youth Retreat weekend. You will learn more about her in weeks to come. Pray for her, the youth sponsors and the Youth Group as this new arrangement begins. **And a reminder:** The pastor review survey and congregational review survey are open until midnight today (Sunday, February 16). If you haven't yet, please complete these surveys to help our congregation discern our future course together.

The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale is coming up, **April 17-18** at the State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson, so you should be putting the final stitches in your quilts and the finishing touches on your woodworking projects. Share the warmth of giving at an MCC Fellowship Meal, March 8 or March 15. Hosts provide hospitality and a meal; guests make a donation for the work of MCC around the world. Sign-up sheets are available in the court area. **Deadline to sign up is today.** Another way to contribute is to help prepay some of the expenses associated with the sale. You could donate \$4400 to make sure there is cheese in the verenike, \$350 for carrots and celery on the relish plates or for many other items. For more details see the list in the court area or contact David or Elena Wiebe.

A support group for survivors of sexual abuse will meet again under the guidance of a professional therapist on February 18. If you are a sexual abuse survivor and would like more information about attending, please call Cindy Unruh from the Caregiving Commission (316-283-0010) for details.

Homeless Shelter—Our next week to serve New Hope Homeless Shelter is February 19-25. If you are able to help, contact Lee Penner at 284-2154 or Ruby Moore at 620-837-4876.

Believe it or not, it is time to sign up for summer camp at Camp Mennoscah. As we have in the past, the Nurture commission will provide a \$100 scholarship to each camper from FMC and Casa Botania. You must sign up on the sign up sheets in the Gathering Space to receive a camp scholarship from FMC. The \$100 scholarship will

be paid directly to camp. To sign up for camp, go to www.campmennoscah.org and click on "Register Online"! If you have any questions about the camp scholarship, please contact Stephanie Weaver, stephweaver@live.com. If you would like to give to the camp scholarship fund, please make your check payable to FMC, designated to Camp Mennoscah Scholarships.

Save the date for a prayer retreat: On Saturday, March 7, a morning of prayer will take place here at FMC. The focus will be on our congregation—the whole and the parts—especially in this year of transition and discernment. Please plan to attend this day apart which will begin at 8:30 AM with breakfast and end by 11:45 AM. A sign-up form is on the bulletin board beside the office so we know how to plan for food. —Sam Claassen and Pastor Anita Kehr

Community Announcements

Dementia Caregivers Support Group at Kidron Bethel Village: On the third Thursday of each month at 2:00 PM in the Sunroom of the Whispering Meadows Unit in Healthcare, Kidron Bethel holds a support group meeting for persons who are caring for loved ones living with dementia. **The next meeting is February 20.** The group is open to participants from the wider Newton community and has affiliation with the Alzheimer's Association of Central and Western Kansas. Eric Massanari, KBV Chaplain, and Beth Penner, Associate Director of Independent Living, serve as group facilitators. Please contact Eric Massanari with any questions: 316-836-4829.

Everence Financial will host a workshop, *Maximizing giving through donor advised funds*, in North Newton on Thursday, February 20. The event will be at 10:00 AM and again at 6:30 PM. Attendees will learn about how a donor advised fund works, ways to increase your impact on causes you care about, how to minimize taxes and more. Reserve your spot by contacting Darlene Buller at 283-3800, 877-467-7294 or Darlene.buller@everence.com.

Registration is now open for Hesston College's Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series (AVDS) on February 21 to 23. This year's conference, in partnership with Everence Financial, is ***Living More with More: Redefining the Good Life***, and will focus on stewardship of finances, resources and hospitality. The weekend's content will have interest points for all life stages from high school to retirement, as well as group-focused content relatable to congregations and other organizations. Go to hesston.edu/avds for more information and registration.

The Bethel College Concert Choir and the Hesston College Bel Canto Singers will unite for a joint concert, "How Firm a Foundation," on Sunday, February 23, 7:00 PM, at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church near Goessel. The choirs will perform individual selections from their respective repertoires, and will join together for other pieces, as well as being joined by members of the Alexanderwohl Mennonite Chancel Choir. Admission to the concert is free. An offering will be taken to benefit Mennonite Central Committee.

Join us for *We've Come This Far by Faith*, an MCC Centennial Celebration on Saturday, February 29 at 7:30 PM, at the Shari Flaming Center for the Arts at Tabor College in Hillsboro, Kansas. We hope you'll join us in celebrating the past 100 years and at the same time help us look forward to the next 100 years of serving in the name of Christ around the world. More information can be found at mcc.org/weve-come-far-faith and to learn more about MCC's centennial, please visit mcc.org/centennial.

Join an MCC learning tour to Palestine and Israel, June 4-14, 2020. This deeply impactful and informative trip is open for 14 people to sign up for. On this trip you will meet Palestinian Christians, hear from Israelis and Palestinians about their current challenges and joys, and you will deepen your faith and be empowered to engage in education and advocacy on Palestine and Israel. Visit mcc.org/events to find out more and get signed up for the trip.

Service Adventure is a gap year program for young adults ages 17–20 that provides 10 ½ months of learning “on the field.” Take a break from the classroom, test out a vocation, experience self-discovery, all while serving God and living in Christian community. Learn more at MennoniteMission.net/Serve.

Calling everyone ages 15–22! Are you looking for a fun and meaningful way to serve this summer? Join a 2020 Youth Venture team! See and join in the work God is doing in Spain, Colombia, Arizona, Peru, Nazareth Village, or Benin. Visit MennoniteMission.net/Serve to learn more, or contact Lauren Eash Hershberger at LaurenEH@MennoniteMission.net.

You are invited to join the fun at the 13th annual MCC Comforter Blitz on March 2, 3 and 4 at Journey Mennonite Church at the Yoder Campus, one mile north of Yoder, Kansas. Blitz times are Monday and Tuesday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, and Wednesday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. This event is hosted by Kansas Friends of MCC, an organization that supports the work of MCC. For more information check out mcc.org/comforter-blitz.

Newton Et Cetera Shop invites area organizations to apply for their annual Local Giving grants! Applications may be downloaded at newtonetceterashop.com and must be submitted by e-mail to localgiving@newtonetceterashop.com by April 13, 2020. Multiple grants will be awarded to selected groups by June 2020, in amounts up to \$5,000. For more information, please contact Sara Dick, general manager, Newton Et Cetera Shop, 619 N. Main Street, Newton KS 67114; 316-283-9461 or e-mail localgiving@newtonetceterashop.com.

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 in Room 225. 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—208; Visitors—0; Sunday School—164

Please leave your blue song insert on the pew at the end of today's service for reuse. Thank you.

Offering: Last week's offering for Local Mission was \$7,251. The offering for February 23 is for Local Mission.

Receiving or has received care—Don Penner, NMC

Congregation & Pastor Review! This is it! You have till midnight to submit your completed forms. If you've already done so, thank you! If not, please do so today. If you are intending to submit paper copies to the Church Office, please deliver those without delay. Your ongoing prayer support is needed over the next two months as the Review Committee and I work on tabulating and interpreting all the responses that have been gathered. Be assured that my prayers will continue on your behalf: That the Lord would bless this review process and that it would amplify your joy as a congregation and as individuals. May it be so! I'm hoping and praying for a final surge of review submissions. Thank you for doing your part in making this a thorough and representative process. I'm cheering you on! —Chuck Neufeld

Jesus, Teach Us. Today is our last Sunday from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. We remembered together that Jesus is our teacher and that we all sit at Jesus' feet to learn. May God bless all our growth here at First Mennonite.

Shine! Wonder Questions. Here are the “wonder” questions for today's scripture, Matthew 7:24-29:

- I wonder how the wise person knew where to safely build a house.
- I wonder why someone would choose to build a house on sand.
- Imagine being in a strong, safe house during a storm.
- I wondering if anyone helped the foolish person rebuild the house.
- I wonder what makes you feel safe and strong inside.