

Jesus, Show Us the Extent of Your Faithful, Loving Presence

March 8, 2020

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Gathering

Gathering song: *Come, thou Almighty King* *H 41

Welcome and the work of the people (announcements)

(Please pass the welcome pads)

Opening words Judy Murphy, worship leader

Centering music: *Give Me Jesus* Choir

Call to worship:

One: We lift up our eyes looking for help.

Many: Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

One: When we have troubles and difficulties, where does our help come from?

Many: Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

One: When we are invited into new ways of thinking and being, where does our help come from?

Many: Our help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Let us worship the One who faithfully helps us and never leaves us or forsakes us.

Praising

Songs of faith: *To God be the glory* H 102
New earth, heavens new H 299

Greet one another; children come forward

Children's focus Ken Frey

Choir anthem: *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

Offering: Local Mission

Offertory: *God So Loved the World* by John Stainer, Arr. Jan Sanborn

Hearing God's Word

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-4a, John 3:1-17

Sermon: *Where it Chooses* Anita Kehr, pastor

Lenten response

Responding to God's Word

Song of response: *Will you come and follow me*

Prayers of the church Eric Murphy, Caregiving and Membership

Sending

Sending song: *I know not why God's wondrous* H 338

Benediction

Postlude

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

Chorister: Barb Claassen; Pianist: Jyl Ewy

Childcare: Laura or Greg Myers, Jenna Ratzlaff, Brooklynn Black

Nursery: Shirley Dietzel, Kathleen Andres

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

Audio Tech: Joey Menninga

Video/Lighting Tech: Eugene Waltner

Visuals: Cindy Unruh

Property Committee: Mason Unruh

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, March 8—Lent 2: Show us your faithful, loving presence—

Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

Daylight Savings Time Begins

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 4:00 PM Youth Group Bible Study

Wednesday, March 11

- 5:30 PM Meal served by the Youth Group
Menu: Verenike, Ham Gravy, Sausage, Green Beans, Zweibach, Cherry Moos
- 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)

Thursday, March 12

- 7:00 PM Church Board

Sunday, March 15— Lent 3: Show us the Rock of our salvation—Exodus 17:1-7;

Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

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

Upcoming Worship Services

- March 22—Lent 4—Show us our blindness—1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

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Pastoral Team

Anita Kehr,

Pastor

316-283-5598

Susan Jantzen,

Interim Pastor of Worship and Visitation

620-877-7923

Tammy Duvanel Unruh,

Interim Youth Ministry Coordinator

316-207-3472

Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr

316-283-0273



**First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS
March 8, 2020**

SR. HIGH YOUTH



- **Sunday School/Worship**—Sunday, March 8, 9:15-11:30 AM
- **Bible Study**- Sunday, March 8, 4:00-6:30 PM. Location TBA
- **It's Zweibach time**—Tuesday, March 10 right after school (or whenever you can get to church) until we are done! Supper included!
- **Verenike supper**—Wednesday, March 11, as soon after school/extracurricular as possible. Plan to work hard until it's all done! Invite your friends/relatives/neighbors!

Transition information: The Search Committee meets for the first time this Saturday, March 14, to be oriented to their task by Heidi Regier Kreider from Western District Conference (WDC). While they are doing background work for our Congregational Information Form, Chuck Neufeld, WDC consultant, is compiling results from the pastoral and congregational reviews. Those results and our congregational conversations about them will shape the kind of person(s) the Search Committee will eventually seek. Please continue to pray for all parts of our congregation's life and work during this season of discernment.

Youth Group Verenike Supper—The youth group could use some empty plastic containers/lids for our meal leftovers. Please bring them to the church kitchen before **Tuesday, March 10**. Thanks!

Final Sunday to Feed Families in Need! The Outreach, Missions, and Peace Commission has partnered with the Chisholm Middle School social worker to provide six families in need with food over Spring Break. There is a box for each family with recommended food items listed in the Court Area. Let's try to fill each box with shelf-stable essentials by **March 8!** Let's show the love of Christ to our neighbors in this very practical way.

The Thursday evening men's Bible study will be focusing on John 13-17 during these weeks of Lent. All are welcome to join us. For details, call or text Sam at 620-951-4455.

Scholarship Fund update. On behalf of the college students and their families, the Scholarship Committee says *"Thank you"* to those who contributed to the Scholarship Fund during the recent Sunday morning offering. Young adults at FMC continue to pursue higher education at a Mennonite Christian school. For the 2020 Spring semester, \$3,500 was paid out for seven (7) scholarships at three (3) schools. The young adults are blessed by a congregation who believes in and supports them. The students and their families plus the Scholarship Committee appreciate the past and current generosity of the congregation.

VBS 2020: God's Big Beautiful World—Save the Date for VBS. May 26-29 at First Mennonite Church, 5:30-8:00 PM (including supper for children and volunteers). Ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to explore, celebrate, and care for God's good creation! For more information or to volunteer to help during the week please talk to Jennie Wintermote. Her email is jenniewintermote@gmail.com.

Who is the distinguished, kindly-looking gentleman in the portrait just inside the door of the room which is across the hall from the church library? Why is "Warkentin Memorial Fellowship Room" inscribed on the door's plaque? To get the answer, view the new exhibit which gives a glimpse into the life of a past church member. Learn how he impacted our congregation as well as the wider church body. Compiled by the Historical Committee, the presentation is located in the corner display cabinet at the west end of the Gathering Area.

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 Betania. 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.

In these weeks, the office showcase is featuring Dewayne and Betty Pauls' voluntary service experience for MCC Akron and Melvin and Nancy Pauls' voluntary service experience at Brook Lane Farm in Maryland. The library showcase features Clint and Pat Litsey's voluntary service with the Hopi Indians.

Community Announcements

The Newton Chorale will be presenting their Spring concert "Prelude to Spring" **today, 7:00PM**, at Bethel College Mennonite Church.

Everence will host its popular workshop, *Make Medicare an easy step*, in North Newton on Tuesday, March 10 and in Hutchinson on Thursday, March 12. Both will begin at 6:30 PM. Attendees will learn about the various Medicare plans and what they cover; plans that supplement Medicare; and enrollment details and deadlines. The workshop is free, but space is limited! Reserve your spot by contacting Michelle Ramer at 283-3800 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

Youth Volunteer Weekend is one week away! Grades 7-12 are invited to come to Camp Mennoscah for Youth Volunteer Weekend on March 13-14 for a time of worship, service, and fellowship. We'll be singing, serving, and funning! Register

online at campmennoscah.org (in the summer youth camp section of registration). Full scholarships are available

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.

Mennonite Mission Network has an immediate opening for a Donor Relations Representative who will help ensure the continued financial growth and stability of the agency by expanding the donor base through a program of database phone calling and extensive follow up and will also be responsible for an assigned territory to develop relationships and achieve contributions from individual donors. See the complete position description at MennoniteMission.net/employment. To begin the application process send a resumé to StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net.

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.

Get ready for the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale—April 17 and 18, at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. What can you bring as your gift to the hungry and hurting at home and abroad? Quality woodwork and needlework items, cotton tea towels, hobby items, crafts, plants and baked foods are much in demand. Donate items for the General, Silent and Children’s Auctions. We call upon quilters to complete their quilts and to gather extra supplies to donate to Quilters’ Corner. Begin to divide house plants and start vegetable plants to sell at Plants and Things and embroider tea towel sets for Kansas Crafts. Participate in the Run for Relief, a 5K run/walk, the Saturday of the sale and gather pledges. Stay up-to-date on all things relating to Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale by liking us on Facebook at Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale or our website at kansas.mccsale.org. If you have pictures of items you are donating, send to photos@kansas.mccsale.org to items can be advertised online.

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—180; Visitors—6; Sunday School—159

Offering: Last week’s offering for Mennonite Mission Network was \$2,290 and Local Mission was \$10,240. The offering for March 15 is for Local Missions.

I wanted to thank FMC for supporting our family after the death of my father, Arlo Voth. I am especially grateful to our Sunday School class, New Disciples. The many acts of kindness from you make us so thankful to worship here.

~Lori Kennell and family

Blue and white hand-sanitizer dispensers have been placed throughout the church building. The foam is not alcohol based. Feel free to use liberally!

We welcome you to worship on this Second Sunday of Lent. The lit candles on the communion table will decrease in number as we walk through the five Sundays of Lent and Palm Sunday. You will receive a bookmark each Sunday as we ask Jesus to show us how to live when shadows deepen. May God bless our Lenten worship.

Another Intergenerational Sunday School Opportunity—If you are not currently attending a Sunday School class, we extend this invitation to you, as well as to those looking for an intergenerational Bible study Sunday School class. Please join us in the NE corner of the Fellowship Hall (basement). We will be studying "Justice and the Prophets," using this quarter's Adult Bible Study booklet. You can join us anytime! After Easter, Amanda Rempel will lead us in a series on the book of Ruth. For more information, contact Dwayne Abrahams, or Brent and Cora Voran.

Youth Group Verenike Supper—As a fundraiser for our summer trip to Harlan, Kentucky, the Youth Group will be hosting a verenike supper **this Wednesday, March 11, 5:30-7:00 PM**. The menu will include verenike, ham gravy, sausage, green beans, zweibach, cherry moos. Vegetarian/gluten-free/dairy-free/sugar-free options available. Friends and family are welcome! **If you are homebound and would like to have a meal delivered, please call the church office.** There will also be frozen sausage for sale during and after the meal.