

Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday

January 31, 2021

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Prelude

The Lord's Prayer arr. by Anthony Burger
Melody Bontrager, piano

Welcome

Clarence Rempel, worship leader

O come, let us give our ears to the witness of truth!

Lord, we are here to learn about following your commands
to cross the spiritual, emotional and physical barriers that surround us.

O come, let us reflect the glory of the Lord of Israel!

Lord, we are here, help us to be salt and light in this world.

O come, let us seek the Lord while he may be found!

Lord, we are here. Come to us, so that we may call upon you.

Nishant Sidh, Mennonite Church in India

Words for the children

Erin Graber

Hymn

Praise the One who breaks the darkness

Kurt Horst and Susan Jantzen

Scripture reading

Luke 16:1-13

Clarence Rempel

Luke 16:13

David Shelly (Spanish)

Kathleen Neff (Haitian Kreyol)

Jim Jantzen (Hindi)

Sermon

The Dishonest Manager

Masemo Wakibogo, Pastor of the
Amani Community Church, Wichita, Kansas

Prayers for the offering and prayers of the church

Renee Hamm

Sending song

Nitakutukuza Bwana

Music from Paradizo Choir of the
Amani Community Church, Wichita, KS

Sending

Clarence Rempel, worship leader

Postlude

Forever with Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Chris Tomlin arr. by Smith & McDonald

Melody Bontrager, piano

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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**

Upcoming Worship Services

February 7—Tammy Duvanel Unruh preaching

February 14—Voices Together dedication, Pastor Kurt Horst preaching

February 17—Ash Wednesday

February 21—First Sunday of Lent, Pastor Susan Jantzen preaching

Happy Birthday!

Tim Regier—February 1

Eric Shelly—February 4

Brayden Fox—February 6

Charlynn Reimer—February 6

Peter Wintermote—February 6

**We will be live-streaming our worship beginning at 10:30 AM. You may view it on our webpage (firstmennonitenewton.org), on our Facebook page, YouTube, or at our Vimeo site. Recordings of the service will be available afterwards as well. Thank you to all those who helped to make the new camera system possible. Today, Sarah Koehn, Ryan Koehn and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship.*

Musicians: Melody Bontrager, Congolese Choir. Thank you to Connie Claassen for the visual art.

First Mennonite Church Newton, KS



Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

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Pastoral Team

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Interim Youth Ministry Coordinator

316-207-3472

Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr

316-283-0273



January 31, 2021

In the church Gathering Area you will find a log cabin which was made for Tonessa Driskill by her husband. When Tonessa passed away, the Life Sharing Sunday School class, volunteered to clean up her house and storage unit. The family kept what they wanted as mementos of Tonessa. The family then gave the class the freedom to keep or dispose of whatever remained. The class found this log cabin among her things. It needed a little refurbishing which was completed by Doug Graham. The log cabin will be donated to the MCC sale this year. Please do not touch since there are a number of delicate pieces to the cabin.

Office hours—Our church office hours will be different. Staff will mostly be working remotely from home. Pastors Kurt, Susan and Tammy will be available by email or by their cell number. Tracy will be in the Church Office on Monday mornings and on Thursday afternoon, and the other days will be working from home. She is always available by email. Tracy will check phone messages left on the church phone each Monday and Thursday. Please feel free to get in contact with one of us if you need anything. We will practice this way until January and then we will reevaluate again.

Kurt: kurth@firstmennonitenewton.org or 620-217-0517

Susan: susanj@firstmennonitenewton.org or 620-877-7923

Tammy: tammyduvanelunruh@gmail.com or 316-207-3472

Tracy: office@firstmennonitenewton.org or 316-288-6168

Pastor Kurt is often in the office Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you want to stop in you are encouraged to call ahead.

Church Library Books—The restrictions of Covid19 slowed the process of getting new books on our church library shelves. However, there are now more than 50 new adult fiction, nonfiction, and children's book available in our library. The new fiction books are on the shelves labeled "newer books." The nonfiction books are on the cart, and the children's books are displayed above the children's shelves. A list of the books will be included in the March newsletter, but are welcome to check out books at any time.

Homeless Shelter—Our next week to serve New Hope Homeless Shelter is February 3-9. If you are able to help, contact Lee Penner at 284-2154 or Ruby Moore at 620-837-4876.

There will be an online (ZOOM) Ash Wednesday Service on February 17 at 7:00 PM. The service will be about 20 minutes long with time following for conversations if persons wish to "stay after the service." Reserve the date and watch the bulletin and emails for more details.

Transitional Information: The Search Committee has met with Heidi Kreider Regier, WDC Conference Minister, for orientation on the interview process with potential pastoral candidates. The next step will be to review Ministerial Leadership Information forms as they are sent to us. Please continue to pray for the Search Committee and Church Board as we move through this journey of discernment for the future pastoral staff.

Community Announcements

MCC Comforter Blitz: At Home The annual MCC Comforter Blitz is happening virtually this year from now through March! The Kansas Friends of MCC committee is challenging congregations and individuals to complete 300 comforters for MCC by the end of March! Read all the details and information on getting comforter making supplies from MCC at mcc.org/blitz-at-home. Share pictures of your work on the MCC Comforter Blitz Facebook page. Contact katemast@mcc.org or 316-804-8432 with questions.

Save the date—at this time, July 2 and 3 are the dates that are set for this year's MCC Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. More information will be coming in the following weeks.

Registration is open for the Spring Scrapbook and Crafts Retreats at Camp Mennoscah on March 5-7 and March 19-21! Once the retreats are full, sign up on the waitlist. Register at campmennoscah.org!

MCC Webinars on Service Opportunities: Are you ready to step out and into service? To spend a year serving abroad or the summer serving your church or a local community organization? Check out the webinars happening this winter that will introduce these MCC service opportunities to you! Learn more at mcc.org/mcc-me-webinar-series-service-opportunities.

The KIPCOR Film Series at Bethel College is serving up a second helping of *Cooked: Survival by Zip Code*, which focuses on the deadly 1995 Chicago heat wave to illustrate how Black, Indigenous and People of Color and low-income citizens suffer the most negative impact from natural disasters. The film is an indictment of U.S. disaster preparedness, and connects extreme weather, extreme disparity (income and other) and extreme racism. Go to kipcor.org, "Film Series," for a link to watch *Cooked* for free and a link to register for the February 7 virtual discussion; advance registration is required to participate in the discussion, which will be held in break-out rooms, with leaders who include Chicagoans who experienced the 1995 heat disaster.

MC USA's annual Lent at Home guide is now available for download at: www.mennoniteusa.org/resource-portal/resource/lent-at-home/.

There are volunteer opportunities for you! Camp Mennoscah continually has year-round work to support the maintenance and upkeep of the campus and facilities. We can accommodate every group size, skill set and length of project you would like to tackle. Check out these ways to **Get Involved!** Email office@campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 to volunteer.

Announcements

As levels of Covid-19 infections have begun to trend downward in Harvey County decisions about in-person worship at First Mennonite are being reviewed. The goal is to be confident that, once we return to limited in-person worship, we will not need to return again to live-streaming only. With cautious optimism these trends will be reviewed again in two weeks with the hope that we might begin limited in-person worship sometime in the season of lent (with proper masks, social distancing, and continued live streaming, of course). *Let's continue to be patient, flexible, and extend grace to all.*

Today we welcome Pastor Masemo Wakibogo who is preaching. Masemo and his family spent 7 years in Kenya as refugees from the violence in Congo before being allowed to come to Hesston as part of a refugee resettlement program. Pastor Wakibogo is a graduate of the Hesston College Pastoral Ministries program and is the founding pastor of the Amani Community Church in Wichita, a Mennonite church plant that just celebrated their one year anniversary with over 100 people in attendance.

Offerings can be sent to the church at P.O. Box 291, 429 E. First Street, Newton, KS 67114. There is also an offering plate in the Gathering Area that will be checked daily if you want to drop your gifts off at church. Please mark the designation of your offering. If left unmarked, it will go to Local Mission. For electronic giving, go to the church website firstmennonitewton.org or contact the church office.

The offering today is for the Scholarship Fund and for February 7, it will be for Mennonite Mission Network.

The Picture Directories are here—If you had your picture taken for the directory or bought a directory, please contact the church office if you still need to pick yours up.

Great news! The new *Voices Together* Hymnals have arrived. All those who purchased a hymnal may pick them up beginning Friday, January 22, in the Gathering Area.

First Mennonite members who have been participating in the “Newton Community for Racial Justice” meetings would like our congregation to be aware of the following anti-racism engagement opportunity. For the last several years members of the Newton community have been advocating for the gym at Santa Fe 5/6 Center, currently named “Historic Lindley Hall,” to be renamed. The gym is named for former basketball coach and principal, Frank Lindley, who refused to allow non-white students to play on his basketball teams. The following is a link to a current petition: <http://bit.ly/2Y918pu>. Additional information can be found in the following online article from the Harvey County Historical Museum: <https://hchm.org/tag/frank-lindley/>

The Adult Bible Study: The full armor of God: Standing firm in uncertain times (Ephesians 6:10-18), continues this Wednesday at 7:00 PM via ZOOM. The topic this week is Righteousness (The Breastplate of Righteousness). If you would like to be part of this but have lost the ZOOM link please request a reminder from Tracy (office@firstmennonitewton.org).