

First Mennonite Church

September 19, 2021

Gathering

Welcome

Don Schmidt, worship leader

Meditation music

Antiphonal Praise with We Have Met to Praise and Worship

arr. by Tom Fettke

Nora Miller, pianist

Call to worship

Don Schmidt, worship leader

Listening

Words for the children

Sheralyn Goering

Worship song

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns VT 101

Daryl Unruh, leader

Prayer for the offering—Local Missions

Don Schmidt, worship leader

Scripture reading

2 Corinthians 3:12-18

Don Schmidt, worship leader

Sermon

The Hard Work of Being Transformed

Randy Detweiler, AMBS

Prayers of the church

Larry Entz

Sending

Sending song

The Church's One Foundation VT 397

Daryl Unruh, leader

Announcements and benediction

Don Schmidt, worship leader

Postlude

Take My Life and Let It Be

arr. Victor Labenske

Nora Miller, pianist

All rows remain seated during postlude.

Thank you.

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. Today, Joey Menninga, Brian Kennel, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Nora Miller, Daryl Unruh, leader. Thank you to Connie Claassen for the visual art. Property Committee: Brent Voran.

Upcoming Worship Services

September 26—Blessing of *Voices Together*.

October 3—World Communion Sunday. Pastor Laura preaching—*Joy Rides*—
Philippians 1:1-26.

October 10—Pastor Laura preaching—*Joy Rebels*—Philippians 1:27-30.

Happy Birthday!

Beverley Buller—September 19

Dennis Flickner—September 19

Ella Regier—September 19

Ashlynn Duerksen—September 21

Haleigh Kerr—September 21

Levi Knopp—September 21

Roy Goering—September 22

Carol Entz—September 23

Rod Pauls—September 23

Brian Kennell—September 24

Jacob Goerzen—September 25

Lori Kingsley—September 25

Gail Pryce—September 25



FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

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Website: www.firstmennonitenewton.org

Pastoral Team

Laura Goerzen, Pastor—620-386-0518; laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org

Susan Jantzen, Interim Pastor—620-877-7923; susanj@firstmennonitenewton.org

Tammy Duvanel Unruh, Interim Youth Ministry—316-207-3472

Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr—316-283-0273; office@firstmennonitenewton.org



The Hard Work of Being Transformed
Randy Detweiler
Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Transitional Information: The Search Committee continues with the interview process for our second pastor. We are, once again, in the phase of working behind the scenes until we can share with the church about our efforts. Please be patient with us as we move through this confidential and important step on our journey. Your prayers have been felt and appreciated; please continue to remember us in this critical stage of discernment.

Healthcare Workers Need Your Support—Our local hospital workers are experiencing lots of stress related to this pandemic right now. Could you write a short note to let them know you are praying for them, you are thinking about them or that you are thankful for their critical work? Paper for this activity has been placed on a table in the Gathering Area. Kids pictures are welcomed! If you want to leave them in Carol Goering's mailbox at church she will deliver them during the month of September.

Safe Sanctuary's Training—anyone who still needs part two of the Safe Sanctuary's Training, come to the Fellowship Hall this Wednesday, September 22, 7:00 PM. If you are not able to attend on September 22, or if you need a Zoom link for September 22, please contact Stephanie Weaver at stephweaver@live.com.

The Allies group, which supports people with various sexual identities and their families and friends, will be meeting at FMC on Sunday, September 26, 4:00 PM, in the Warkentin Room. For more information about the meeting, contact Wendy Funk Schrag at pwschrag@cox.net.

A support group for survivors of sexual abuse will meet under the guidance of a professional therapist on Tuesday, September 28. If you have experienced sexual abuse, you are welcome to attend. Please contact Laura Sharp from the Caregiving and Membership Commission for details.

The time has come! Worship Commission is planning a Sunday of blessing for our new *Voices Together* hymnal on September 26! Please join us for worship that day.

An Evening of Voices Together – Three weeks from today, October 10, 6:30 PM, we will have a delightful hour exploring the new hymnal, *Voices Together*. Led by Rosi Penner Kaufman, Minister of Music and Worship at Rainbow Mennonite Church in Kansas City, we will hear songs sung by a quartet at the front with comments and teaching from Rosi. We will be masked and distanced in all rows—we hope to sing a song toward the end. Come join us for this evening of gratitude and song!

~First Mennonite Worship Commission

You are invited to view the Memorial Displays for Helen Entz and Otis Unruh in the Gathering Area and for Mary Enz in the Library display case. The Caregiving and Membership Commission wishes to honor persons who passed away during the required limitations beginning March 2020.

Community Announcements

Camp Mennoscah's Annual Meeting will be held September 26, 3:30 PM, at Hope Mennonite Church (Wichita, KS)! Due to the recently increased Covid-19 transmission, the Camp Mennoscah gathering scheduled for September 26 has changed. The dessert auction and hymn sing portions of the event will not take place as originally planned due to the increased concerns of safety regarding food and singing. This event will be replaced with another opportunity in the future. Updated details will be shared with you as soon as they're available. We will still meet on **September 26, 3:30 PM**, for the Camp Mennoscah Annual Meeting! You are invited to join in person at Hope Mennonite Church (Wichita, KS) or on Zoom. A link will be shared in upcoming weeks. Please bring a mask, if attending in person. We welcome you to join us to look back on our memorable past summer and look forward to where camp is going in the next year and beyond.

Camp Mennoscah is seeking a full-time Director of Development, Marketing and Communications to lead our ongoing operational and advancement needs. This position reports directly to the Board of Directors while taking directive from the Executive Director when related to operational considerations. As a member of a small, very hands-on staff, the role is expected to be highly collaborative. This professional must embrace the mission of Camp Mennoscah, have an established background in coordinating nonprofit donation strategies, possess strong written, interpersonal, leadership and relationship building skills, and work as an independent contributor with good organization and follow-through. Most of the work will commence off campus, however some in-person time at camp is required. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled and early submission is encouraged. Please send application materials (resume, cover letter, references and salary requirements) to campmennojjobs@att.net.

Plan to see the fall play, *The Game's Afoot* by Ken Ludwig on September 30-October 3 at Hesston College Campus, Keim Center. Murder mystery comedy. Presented in the Black Box Theater. Showtimes are: September 30, 7:00 PM; October 1, 7:00 PM; October 2, 7:00 PM; and October 3, 2:00 PM. Tickets are \$10 per adults/seniors and \$5 for students and can be purchased at hesston.edu and click the Fine Arts tab. **Masks required for audience members.**

Bakers and Crafters Needed! Help support Bethel College Women's Association by donating pies for BCWA's Pie-By-The-Slice booth or any baked item or craft item for the Market in the Round at Fall Fest 2021. Peppernuts, zwieback, cinnamon rolls, and coffee cakes are popular items! Bring your pies (no refrigerated or custard pies please) to Seminar A in Schultz Student Center from 4:00 to 6:30 PM, Friday, October 1 or from 8:00 to 11:00 AM, Saturday, October 2. Baked goods and craft items can be dropped off at the Luyken Fine Arts Center Rm 140 on Friday, 1:30-4:30 PM or Saturday 7:00-8:00 AM. All proceed go to support Bethel College.

Join MCC in prayer and support for those suffering in our world. MCC has prepositioned relief materials in Haiti for immediate use. Earlier this month an additional shipment of supplies was sent to Haiti and is expected to arrive in September. MCC continues to respond to needs around the world in Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Congo and

other crisis areas. We greatly appreciate your monetary donations to keep current projects going and to help with extra expenses due to recent disasters; and we could use your help in replenishing our supplies of relief kits and hygiene kits. Questions can be directed to 316-283-2720 or centralstates@mcc.org.

Consider making a donation to the Western District Conference Hope Fund! The Hope Fund issues grants to churches in Western District Conference that are suffering hardship related to COVID-19 and other disasters. As the pandemic continues to affect our churches, the Hope Fund has proven to be incredibly important to supporting churches in need. You can find out more, and make a donation, by visiting mennowdc.org, or by sending a check to Western District Conference, PO Box 306, North Newton, KS 67117. Please consider contributions to the Hope Fund as above and beyond regular giving to WDC, which supports ongoing staff, programs and resourcing for congregations and leaders.

We need help mowing and burning brush piles! The grass that is usually cut short is doing its best to compete with the tallgrass prairie in height. Volunteer to mow (with a riding lawn mower) for whatever length of time you can offer or grab a string trimmer to chase back those wily weeds. Or get a group together and schedule a day to burn (wind speed permitting)—we'll keep trying until a day works! Contact Camp Mennoscah at office@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290.

The annual Hispanic Ministries—IBA Burrito Benefit Sale will take place Friday, October 15. Order to go (drive thru pick up) at First Mennonite Church—429 East 1st Newton. For any inquires contact Violeta Ajquejay Suastegui call 316-281-4342 or email at: VioletaA@MennoniteEducation.org. Watch the bulletin for more details.

Register at www.campmennoscah.org! There is only one Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat. Lodging will be in the Retreat Center and cropping/crafting will be in the Main Camp dining hall. Space heaters will be available for both areas since the repairs for the furnaces will not be complete by the beginning of November. Fees for the Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat have increased to \$150 to meet higher costs and the use of multiple facilities. For those who find the increase prohibitive, there is an option to receive up to \$25 in scholarship funds per person as part of the registration process.

MDS volunteers needed: Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) calls for volunteers with a heart for service and an attitude of flexibility. Volunteers are needed in Paradise, California; Jennings, Louisiana; McAllen, Texas as well as other work sites organized by local Units. MDS is seeking volunteers who, while eager to get back out there, must be ready to roll with both safety precautions and schedule changes as COVID-19 cases fluctuate. Call 1-800-241-8111 or go to mds.org to learn more. As these projects prepare to open, MDS wants volunteers to know that we are working to make sure that they have a meaningful experience and that it is as safe as possible.

Announcements

The offering for September 26 will be for Local Missions. 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: firstmennonitenewton.org or contact the church office.

Offering for September 5 and 12. Local Mission—\$6,145; AMBS—\$400. Online giving for Local Mission—\$1,683.

First Mennonite Church worship attendance—September 12—116.

We welcome Randy Detweiler to our pulpit today. He comes to share with us from our denominational seminary, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. Randy, who joined AMBS's Development Team in February 2021, grew up in Northern Michigan in the small town of Fairview. He has pastored in three congregations in Indiana and Michigan over the last 30 years, most recently in the Michiana area. He has also been active in conference leadership roles throughout his ministry life and values those connections across the broader church. Randy and his wife, Joy, live in the small town of Wakarusa, Indiana, not far from their two adult children. He enjoys biking, golfing and camping as well as cheering for his favorite college teams.

The Outreach, Missions, and Peace Commission gives leadership to our efforts to extend God's love to the world through ministries of mission, evangelism, peacemaking and social justice. If you are curious about current projects of this group, please contact one of the members listed in the back of the church directory. If you feel led to be a part of this group, please contact Keith Knopp, member of the Gifts Discernment Committee, at 284-1251.

Everyone is invited to a MEET AND EAT gathering on Sunday, September 26, 5:00 PM, in the south parking lot hosted by the Church Board. Please come and enjoy sloppy joes, baked beans, potato chips, and cake. All you need to bring is yourselves and a chair to sit on! Everything else will be provided by the Church Board. It has been a LONG time since we have had a potluck and the Church Board felt it was time to reconnect! Come and enjoy a meal (our version of a potluck), conversation, and connecting with some of us you haven't seen for a while. We hope to see you there!

SR. HIGH YOUTH



- Sunday School—in person and Zoom—9:15 AM
 - Youth Group—Wednesday, September 22, 7:00 PM
- Check your email for more information on Sunday School and Youth Group.