

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Halstead, Kansas

February 25, 2018

Gathering Music

Blessed Be the Name of the Lord

Lauren Mueller

Welcome and Announcements

Denice Klassen

Call to Worship

L: Come, sons and daughters of Abraham and Sarah, nations born of barren lands, you who stand here because of promises fulfilled, come and worship your God.

P: We were born through the faith of our ancestors, just as our faith will give life to future generations; even as we hope against hope, we come to worship our God.

L: Welcome home, children of God. Welcome to the house of God.

Centering Music

Pacem

February Birthday Offering

Choir

Callie Ross on Violin

Praise Music

**Great is the Lord – HWB #87*

Cornerstone – Projected

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) – Projected

Children's Story

Chuck Mueller

Offering and Offertory

I Could Sing of Your Love Forever

Western District Conference

Lauren Mueller

Prayer of Praise and Concern

Theme Song

From the Inside Out - Projected

Scripture Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Mark 8:31-38 (pgs. 22 & 1567)

Message

Legacy of Faith

Pastor Steve

*Closing Song

Cherish the Cross

Choir

*Benediction

*Postlude

Cindy Siemens

*Asterisk indicates to stand as you are able.

Visitors, please complete a Visitor Information Card from the pew pocket and place in the offering plate.

CALENDAR

Feb. 27 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study

Feb. 28 5:00 pm Kids Club

6:00 pm Supper

7:00 pm Adult Bible study

8:00 pm Bell Choir

March 1 7:00 pm Care Portal Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The rose at the front today is to celebrate the 99th birthday of Amanda Nightingale on March 1. Happy birthday Amanda!

Secretary Note: The deadline for the March newsletter is Monday, February 26 at noon. Thanks.

Thank you: Thank you so much for all the kind expressions of sympathy, prayers and cards we received at this time of our loss. It has meant so much to us. -Marge Matula and Deb Castillo

The directory is being updated. If you have any changes to your information or need to have your picture taken, please let Kaitlen know. You can place your changes in her mailbox or email her at kaitlen.ortman@gmail.com.

A "Walker Apron" project was initiated by Sharon Crow to provide these items for people using walkers for safety. Rachel Lohrenz was given three aprons and would be happy to share if you are in need of one for yourself or someone you know. Please call Rachel at 620-386-4213.

Another Prairie Window Concert Series, featuring John Fullbright, will be February 25 at 4 pm at the Dyck Arboretum in Hesston. Purchase tickets online or call 620-327-8127 to reserve your seats.

There are only a few spaces left at the March 2-4 Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat at Camp Mennoscah. We'd love to have you join us for this weekend of memories, crafty-ness, fellowship, and devotions! Register online at campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 for assistance. The Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat is amazing!

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association (SMCHA) will hold its annual business meeting March 11 at 2:30 pm in the First Mennonite Church of Pretty Prairie, 1718 W. Pretty Prairie Road. In addition to the business meeting the speaker will be Rev. Kathryn Goering Reid. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

PASTOR: Steve Wilcox

www.firstmennonitehalstead.org

Office Phone: 316-835-2282

Cell Phone: 316-322-5651

Office Hours: Tues. 9-2 & Thurs. 8-11, 12-3

WELCOMERS TODAY	Joyce Franz
ORGANIST/PIANIST	Cindy Siemens & Lauren Mueller
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Gregg Dick
NURSERY TODAY	Leah Kawanguzi & Sandy Lewis
CHURCH ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY	92
OFFERING LAST SUNDAY	
Western District Conference (designated)	\$1,200.00
Church Budget	465.00
MCC Relief Sale	100.00
Matula Funeral Meal	300.00
OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY	MC USA
WELCOMERS NEXT SUNDAY	Harley & Elaine Mohler
NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY	Lynda Schroeder & Brocia Mueller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hymn Sing and Dessert Auction for "Creation, Craftiness, and Cooling Off"! Camp Mennoscah invites everyone to join us from 4-6 p.m. TODAY, at Whitestone Mennonite Church in Hesston. We'll sing our favorite hymns, bid on delectable desserts, and hear about how, with your help, camp provides afternoon activities for campers to stay cool, be crafty, and learn about God's creation. Funds raised will go toward the Camp Mennoscah general fund. Come and join us!

Bethel College: TODAY– Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum with Christy Davis, executive director, Symphony in the Flint Hills, 3 p.m., on "The Other Chisholm Trail: Little-Known Facts About the Great Cattle Drives," Kauffman Museum. **TODAY**– Staley Lecture with Malinda Elizabeth Berry, a professor of theology and ethics at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, 7 p.m., on "Practicing and Embodying Nonviolence," Krehbiel Auditorium. Berry will also speak in convocation, Feb. 26, 11 a.m., Krehbiel Auditorium. **March 1** – Greer Lecture and slide presentation by potter Alysha Baier, 7 p.m., Ad Building chapel. **March 2** – Closing reception for "Vibrant Nature" and artist Jennifer Larsen, 5-7 p.m., Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center. **March 2** – Mark McCormick book-signing, 6 p.m., Mantz Library Lounge at Bethel College. McCormick, former columnist for the Wichita Eagle and current executive director of The Kansas African American Museum in Wichita, is the author of a new book, *Some Were Paupers, Some Were Kings*, which will be available for sale. **March 3** – Kauffman Museum First-Saturday Bird Walk. Join experienced birders at 7:30 a.m. in the museum parking lot for a walk of 1 to 1.5 hours. **March 4** – KIPCOR Film Series presents *The Empathy Gap: Masculinity and the Courage to Change*, 3 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium.

Get your tickets now for Hesston College's spring musical production, "Hands on a Hardbody." Each of the five performances will be at the AGCO Corp. Auditorium in the Communication Center, 420 W. Lincoln Blvd., Hesston. Shows are at 7 p.m., Feb. 28 to March 3, and 2 p.m., March 4. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and children, and can be purchased in advance through the Hesston College Bookstore in person, online at books.hesston.edu, or by calling 620-327-8104. Tickets will also be available at the door 45 minutes prior to show time and are subject to availability. The show is rated PG for mild language.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hymn Sing and Dessert Auction for "Creation, Craftiness, and Cooling Off"! Camp Mennoscah invites everyone to join us from 4-6 p.m. TODAY, at Whitestone Mennonite Church in Hesston. We'll sing our favorite hymns, bid on delectable desserts, and hear about how, with your help, camp provides afternoon activities for campers to stay cool, be crafty, and learn about God's creation. Funds raised will go toward the Camp Mennoscah general fund. Come and join us!

Bethel College: TODAY– Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum with Christy Davis, executive director, Symphony in the Flint Hills, 3 p.m., on "The Other Chisholm Trail: Little-Known Facts About the Great Cattle Drives," Kauffman Museum. **TODAY**– Staley Lecture with Malinda Elizabeth Berry, a professor of theology and ethics at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, 7 p.m., on "Practicing and Embodying Nonviolence," Krehbiel Auditorium. Berry will also speak in convocation, Feb. 26, 11 a.m., Krehbiel Auditorium. **March 1** – Greer Lecture and slide presentation by potter Alysha Baier, 7 p.m., Ad Building chapel. **March 2** – Closing reception for "Vibrant Nature" and artist Jennifer Larsen, 5-7 p.m., Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center. **March 2** – Mark McCormick book-signing, 6 p.m., Mantz Library Lounge at Bethel College. McCormick, former columnist for the Wichita Eagle and current executive director of The Kansas African American Museum in Wichita, is the author of a new book, *Some Were Paupers, Some Were Kings*, which will be available for sale. **March 3** – Kauffman Museum First-Saturday Bird Walk. Join experienced birders at 7:30 a.m. in the museum parking lot for a walk of 1 to 1.5 hours. **March 4** – KIPCOR Film Series presents *The Empathy Gap: Masculinity and the Courage to Change*, 3 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium.

Get your tickets now for Hesston College's spring musical production, "Hands on a Hardbody." Each of the five performances will be at the AGCO Corp. Auditorium in the Communication Center, 420 W. Lincoln Blvd., Hesston. Shows are at 7 p.m., Feb. 28 to March 3, and 2 p.m., March 4. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and children, and can be purchased in advance through the Hesston College Bookstore in person, online at books.hesston.edu, or by calling 620-327-8104. Tickets will also be available at the door 45 minutes prior to show time and are subject to availability. The show is rated PG for mild language.

Join us at the 2018 annual Comforter Blitz in Yoder, Kansas, to help in making comforters for MCC to distribute to our brothers and sisters around the world! March 5 from 10 am - 5 pm, March 6 from 9 am – 5 pm, March 7 from 9 am – 4 pm. Location: Journey at Yoder, 3605 E. Longview Road, Yoder. Everyone is welcome! Lunch is available each day by donation. Please bring a snack to share. We hope to see you there!

Everence will host an all-inclusive retirement planning workshop on Saturday, March 3, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Topics will include Medicare, Social Security and retirement income planning. The workshop will be presented by Everence staff and will take place at the Everence office at 3179 N. Main St., North Newton. Reserve your spot soon by contacting Michelle Ramer at (316) 283-3800; (877) 467-7294 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

The Newton Et Cetera Shop is hiring a housewares sorter/receiver for 20-30 hours/week. The sorter/receiver maintains an active presence in the processing area, in both receiving and sorting donations. S/he will be primarily responsible for sorting through houseware donations, placing items in appropriate price categories, recycling and discarding, as needed. The full job description and applications are available at the store (619 N. Main in Newton) or at generalmanager@newtonetceterashop.com. Applications are due Monday, March 5, 2018, and can be submitted in person to the general manager or by e-mail.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Praise God for the good news of new employment for Ron Colbert!
- Keep in prayer all those affected by the tragic school shooting in Florida. The students, teachers, parents, and all of the community. May the presence of God move powerfully, bringing comfort and peace at this time.
- Western District Conference: Pray for WDC's Immigration Task Force, and congregations in WDC discerning a faithful response to immigration concerns.
- Mennonite Mission Network: Linda Oyer of Mennonite Mission Network is bringing closure to her 30-year ministry in France. Pray that the seeds she planted through teaching and mentoring will continue to bear fruit. Pray also that she will find joy in writing more of the books that have been percolating in her spirit.

Join us at the 2018 annual Comforter Blitz in Yoder, Kansas, to help in making comforters for MCC to distribute to our brothers and sisters around the world! March 5 from 10 am - 5 pm, March 6 from 9 am – 5 pm, March 7 from 9 am – 4 pm. Location: Journey at Yoder, 3605 E. Longview Road, Yoder. Everyone is welcome! Lunch is available each day by donation. Please bring a snack to share. We hope to see you there!

Everence will host an all-inclusive retirement planning workshop on Saturday, March 3, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Topics will include Medicare, Social Security and retirement income planning. The workshop will be presented by Everence staff and will take place at the Everence office at 3179 N. Main St., North Newton. Reserve your spot soon by contacting Michelle Ramer at (316) 283-3800; (877) 467-7294 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

The Newton Et Cetera Shop is hiring a housewares sorter/receiver for 20-30 hours/week. The sorter/receiver maintains an active presence in the processing area, in both receiving and sorting donations. S/he will be primarily responsible for sorting through houseware donations, placing items in appropriate price categories, recycling and discarding, as needed. The full job description and applications are available at the store (619 N. Main in Newton) or at generalmanager@newtonetceterashop.com. Applications are due Monday, March 5, 2018, and can be submitted in person to the general manager or by e-mail.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Praise God for the good news of new employment for Ron Colbert!
- Keep in prayer all those affected by the tragic school shooting in Florida. The students, teachers, parents, and all of the community. May the presence of God move powerfully, bringing comfort and peace at this time.
- Western District Conference: Pray for WDC's Immigration Task Force, and congregations in WDC discerning a faithful response to immigration concerns.
- Mennonite Mission Network: Linda Oyer of Mennonite Mission Network is bringing closure to her 30-year ministry in France. Pray that the seeds she planted through teaching and mentoring will continue to bear fruit. Pray also that she will find joy in writing more of the books that have been percolating in her spirit.

Mission and Service Endowment Fund

On Sunday, March 4, following the worship service, we will have a congregational vote to approve a revised version of the Mission and Service Endowment Fund document. The Mission and Service Endowment is intended to encourage, expand and enable service among those in our congregation.

The primary changes include:

- 1) Applications would now be accepted only from people actively associated with First Mennonite Church - Halstead.

In the original document, anyone from the Western District Conference or MC USA could apply for grants.

- 2) Grants would continue to be accepted after the initial application process if funds are still available.

In the original document, grants would only be accepted through March 1 even if available grant money for that calendar year was not distributed. We feel opportunities come up throughout the year and we should continue to receive applications as funds are still available.

- 3) Future changes to the document can be made with church council approval.

In the original document, changes of any type require a congregational vote. We feel that if any changes are felt necessary to be made to the document in the future, having Church Council approval would be sufficient.

If you would like to view the complete revised document, or the original document showing the additions in 'green' and the parts being removed in 'red', there are copies on the Mission Bulletin Board near the restrooms and on the west information table. Please do not remove these copies. If you would like a copy to take home, have any questions or comments, feel free to contact anyone on the Mission Ministry.

Members are Alan Mueller, Lois Loflin, Janet Ortman, Sandy Allen & Dwight Mueller.

Mission and Service Endowment Fund

On Sunday, March 4, following the worship service, we will have a congregational vote to approve a revised version of the Mission and Service Endowment Fund document. The Mission and Service Endowment is intended to encourage, expand and enable service among those in our congregation.

The primary changes include:

- 1) Applications would now be accepted only from people actively associated with First Mennonite Church - Halstead.

In the original document, anyone from the Western District Conference or MC USA could apply for grants.

- 2) Grants would continue to be accepted after the initial application process if funds are still available.

In the original document, grants would only be accepted through March 1 even if available grant money for that calendar year was not distributed. We feel opportunities come up throughout the year and we should continue to receive applications as funds are still available.

- 3) Future changes to the document can be made with church council approval.

In the original document, changes of any type require a congregational vote. We feel that if any changes are felt necessary to be made to the document in the future, having Church Council approval would be sufficient.

If you would like to view the complete revised document, or the original document showing the additions in 'green' and the parts being removed in 'red', there are copies on the Mission Bulletin Board near the restrooms and on the west information table. Please do not remove these copies. If you would like a copy to take home, have any questions or comments, feel free to contact anyone on the Mission Ministry.

Members are Alan Mueller, Lois Loflin, Janet Ortman, Sandy Allen & Dwight Mueller.