

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Halstead, Kansas

March 4, 2018

Gathering Music

Kent Dick

Chorale Prelude on "Rathbun"

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Steve

Call to Worship

L: Come rule makers, rule breakers, and you who are still finding your way. Come. Whether you speak with wise words or with wisecracks, you are made in the image of God. Come into God's house. Hear God's Word. Prepare to meet your Maker and your match. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is greater than human strength.

P: Some of us like certainty and structure. Some of us don't. We come by different roads, yet we are here together. We want to know God, and to be known by God. We are here to worship the Lord.

L: Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there." We are here and Christ Jesus is here. We join our hearts in worship.

Centering Music

Kent Dick

O Mensch, Bewein' Dein' Sunde Gross - Bach

Praise Music

**Let's Sing unto the Lord* – HWB #55

The Law of the Lord – Projected

Draw me Close to You – Projected

Children's Story

Chuck Mueller

Offering and Offertory

MC USA

I Lay my Sins on Jesus - Kendall

Prayer of Praise and Concern

Theme Song

From the Inside Out - Projected

Scripture Reading

Exodus 20:1-17 & Psalm 19:7-10 (pgs. 118 & 858)

Message

Pastor Steve

God's Commands are Good

*Closing Song

Go, My Children – HWB #433

*Benediction

*Postlude

Kent Dick

Psalm XIX - Marcello

*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

March 4	2:30 pm	Kansas Mennonite Men's Practice at Hesston
March 6	7:45 am	Early Birds Breakfast
	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study
March 7	5:00 pm	Kids Club
	6:00 pm	Supper
	7:00 pm	Adult Bible study
	8:00 pm	Bell Choir
March 8	9:30 am	Mom's Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Thank you from MMN: Thank you, First Mennonite Church, for giving \$9,396.64 to Mennonite Mission Network in 2017! Your donations, prayers and enthusiastic participation play a vital role in our global church. Together, we were able to share a message of hope in a broken world.

The total collected for *My Coins Count* for the month of February was \$220.96. We had to get a bigger jar! Let's fill it again in March!

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.

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!

PASTOR: Steve Wilcox

www.firstmennonitehalstead.org

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

WELCOMERS TODAY	Harley & Elaine Mohler
ORGANIST/PIANIST	Kent Dick
NURSERY TODAY	Lynda Schroeder & Brocia Mueller
CHURCH ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY	103
OFFERING LAST SUNDAY	
MCC Relief Sale (designated)	\$1,705.00
Church Budget	830.00
Wednesday Night Meal	55.00
February Birthday Offering	59.00
Verenike Supper (2-24-18)	6,321.00
Extra Food Sales (2-25-18)	673.00
OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY	Church Budget
WELCOMERS NEXT SUNDAY	Phil & Linda Aylward
NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY	Shaun Ortman & Lauren Mueller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bethel College: March 4 – KIPCOR Film Series presents The Empathy Gap: Masculinity and the Courage to Change, 3 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium. **Registration deadline** for the academic conference “Mennonites and the Holocaust” is March 9. The conference will take place on the Bethel College campus March 16-17 with speakers and scholars from Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, Ukraine and the United States. See mla.bethelks.edu/MennosandHolocaust for more information or to register online. **March 16** – Doris Bergen, University of Toronto, “Neighbors, Killers, Enablers, Witnesses: The Many Roles of Mennonites in the Holocaust,” 11 a.m., Krehbiel Auditorium (public presentation from the Mennonites and the Holocaust conference). **March 16** – The Mennonites and the Holocaust conference presents a public screening of *Friesennot*, a 1935 Nazi propaganda film about a Mennonite village in Russia, 7:30 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium.

On March 18-19, the Mennonite churches of Beatrice, NE will host "Faith, Hope, and the Mission of Rural and Small Town Churches", a WDC Year of Evangelism event. Brad Roth, pastor at West Zion, Moundridge, KS and author of *God's Country: Faith, Hope, and the Future of the Rural Church* will be the speaker. A workshop session for pastors and church leaders has been added to the schedule on the afternoon of March 19. Detailed information can be found at: <http://mennowdc.org/year-of-evangelism/>.

We had a hootin' good time at the Hymn Sing and Dessert Auction for Camp Mennoscah! Here's a summary of your generosity. Approximately 70 people showed up to raise the roof with song, \$3376.15 was raised for fun afternoon activities at camp, and many of you went home with tasty additions to your next meal--from catfish (shaped) cake to German chocolate to cheesecake or pie. Our hearts are filled and we are thrilled to have your support of our summer youth camps. Thanks for having dessert with us!

We've got 8 weeks! Camp Mennoscah has 8 summer camps for youth in grades 3-12 (fall 2018) and we want you to come. We're discovering amazing adventures in God's love and seeking God in creation and community. Register for your adventure at Camp Mennoscah at campmennoscah.org. Early registration discount until May 1 when full camp fees are paid!

The WDC/SCC Women's Spring Supper will be at 6 pm on Thursday, March 15, at Whitestone Mennonite Church, 629 Crescent Drive in Hesston, KS. Meal (Ham, potatoes & more) for \$10 by Whitestone Mennonite Youth with payment to them. Program at 7 pm with Joanna Gerber Pinkerton, daughter of Mennonite missionaries in the Belgian Congo, on *Faith in Everyday Life. Music, Sadie and the Prowlers*, from Hesston College. Offering for AIMM, Women's Literacy training in the Congo. Checks made to WDWM and memo line AIMM. Reservations due by March 8 to Marlene Faul, 316-283-3342 or westerndistrictwomen@gmail.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.

Executive Director: Mennonite Women USA seeks a strong, visionary leader and fundraiser to direct the overall mission and vision of empowering women and women's groups within the Mennonite Church. The Executive Director supervises dispersed staff and coordinates and develops the various ministries, programs, publications and promotional material. This full time position requires working independently, but also part of a team; excellent verbal and written skills, including public speaking; and ability to build relationships with persons of diverse backgrounds. Involves travel. See job description at mwusa.org/staff. Send resume and three references to Kathy Bilderback, board chair at kabilderback@cableone.net by April 30.

Sarah Thompson, former Executive Director of Christian Peacemaker Teams will speak at Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church in Wichita on March 18. If you are interested in hearing her speak, please find more information on the bulletin board.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Western District Conference: Pray for WDC congregations as they seek to follow Jesus' way of peace in response to the many forms of violence in our communities, nation and world.
- Mennonite Mission Network: Pastors and their wives who minister in Ukraine's militarized zone look forward to a retreat this month. Mary Raber of Mennonite Mission Network, serving as a resource person, requests prayer for a restful gathering for those who have given their all to congregations for several stress-filled years.

Mission and Service Endowment Fund

Today 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.