

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Halstead, Kansas

First Sunday in Advent

December 2, 2018

Gathering Music Sebastian Horn

Welcome and Announcements Gregg Dick

Centering Music Sebastian Horn

Call to Worship James & Debbie Nightingale
Advent Candle Lighting

***Praise Songs**
The First Noel – HWB #199
Guide Me, O Though Great Jehovah – HWB #582

Scripture
Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:4-5; 2 Peter 3:8-9

Message – Part 1 *Waiting; How do we wait?*

Bringing our Gifts

Children’s Story Melanie Haspels

Message – Part 2 *Waiting on the Lord*

Bringing our Gifts

Prayer of Praise and Concern Pastor Steve

Praise Song
Longing for Light – STJ #54

Message – Part 3 *Waiting Well*

Bringing our Gifts

***Closing Song**
O Come, O Come, Immanuel – HWB #172

***Benediction**

***Postlude** Sebastian Horn

*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

Dec. 3	12:30 pm	Blood Drive at Catholic Parish Center
Dec. 5	6:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
	7:00 pm	Bell Practice
	8:00 pm	Choir Practice

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Halstead Community Blood Drive will be Monday, Dec. 3 from 12:30-6:30 pm at the Catholic Parish Hall. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

Secretary Note: If you borrowed a pie stacker from the Mission Supper, please return to the church. One is still missing. Thanks!

The Women’s Mission Society will meet at the church on Dec. 10 at 9 am to drive to SafeHope in Newton. We have been asked to sort the Angel Tree gifts. We plan to have lunch at the Breadbasket following. All women of the church are invited to join. (This is an update from what was reported in our December newsletter.)

The Hospitality Ministry invites you to stay for a carry-in following Worship on December 16th. We will pack goody tins to distribute at the Neighbors Store following lunch. You can bring cookies, homemade snacks, or store-bought individual items to pack in the tins. We will also try to Christmas carol at the two local nursing homes immediately following. It will be a busy day, but one that will bless others!

SafeHope has 14 families left that are in need of support! Call 316-803-1800 for information, or see the see the bulletin board flyer for information on how you can help.

Night in the Barn: Everyone is invited to attend and experience Night in the Barn, presented by Tabor Mennonite Church from 5 – 8 pm during the first two weekends in December (Dec. 2 and Dec. 8 & 9). Please note the new location of Papa’s Pumpkin Patch (372 E 70th, Newton, KS - just off of K-15 between Newton and Goessel). Come and interact with the characters, animals, sights and sounds of this timeless tale. Enjoy this walking tour of the Nativity with family and friends. The suggested donation of \$5 per person includes a hot drink and snack. Come and share in the wonder of the Christmas Story! If you have any questions, call (620) 367-2721.

Bethel College: **Dec. 5** – Annual sing-along to Christmas portions of Handel’s Messiah, with Bethel College instrumentalists, soloists and student conductors, 11 a.m., Bethel College Mennonite Church; scores provided. **Dec. 6** – Closing reception for Stephanie Lanter, “Terms,” 6-8 p.m., Regier Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center. **Dec. 6** – Bethel College Steel Drum Band Christmas concert, 7 p.m., Memorial Hall. **Dec. 7** – Christmas Gala jazz concert with Bethel College Jazz Ensembles I & II, 8 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. **Dec. 9** – 33rd annual Lighting of the Green, 8 p.m.

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	Marilyn Schrag
ORGANIST/PIANIST	Cindy Siemens/Sebastian Horn
NURSERY TODAY	No nursery today
CHURCH ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY	82
OFFERING LAST SUNDAY	
Western District Conference (designated)	\$807.00
Church Budget	925.00
November Birthdays	17.00
OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY	Church Budget
WELCOMERS NEXT SUNDAY	Dick & Marj VanWye
NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY	Kaitlen Ortman & Sandy Lewis



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hesston College Performing Arts will celebrate the Christmas season with “Peace on Earth,” a music and theatre performance at 7 pm, Dec. 8 at Hesston Mennonite Church. The concert is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be collected for MCC hygiene kits. Monetary donations or donations of hygiene kits items are welcome. Items include new adult-sized toothbrush, bar of bath soap, nail clipper, hand towel, wide-toothed comb.

All are invited to Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church, Goessel, KS to hear Brass Christmas with the McPherson Community Brass Choir under the direction of Jerry Toews and the Goessel High School Elbiata Singers under the direction of Braden Unruh on December 9 at 7 pm.

You’re invited to the annual MCC Christmas Soiree at MCC in North Newton on Thursday, December 13 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Join us for this holiday party to enjoy festive food and fellowship! We’ll pause at 6 p.m. to hear from International Volunteer Exchange Participants share about their current work and Christmas traditions from their home countries. Everyone is welcome for this come and go holiday event. MCC is located at 121 E. 30th in North Newton. Call us with questions, 316.283.2720.

Christmas Gathering for Volunteers of All Years! Volunteers of all sorts from all years are invited to come to Camp Mennoscah on December 15 at 2:30pm-ish for a time to have conversation and cookies! Add this time of relaxation to your holidays!

Coming to the Volunteer Christmas at Camp Mennoscah on December 15? You are invited to arrive on December 14 at 5pm or later (and stay overnight) for whatever reasonable fun you can come up with in exchange for four hours of work the morning of December 15. Get a jump start on your game playing and conversations in the evening and work off your sleepies in the morning! We'll have continental breakfast and a simple lunch for you. You must register for this in advance! Call us at 620-297-3290 or email at olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org no later than December 10. Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Bethel College’s peacebuilding institute, KIPCOR, has seen a recent uptick in churches requesting help in resolving various conflicts. Because our own resources are limited, we’re offering an opportunity for congregations to help address this need themselves – KIPCOR’s semi-regular training course “Managing Differences within Faith Communities.” The two-day course runs Jan. 3-4, 2019, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., at KIPCOR’s North Newton office. Lead instructor is Sharon Kniss, KIPCOR director of education and training. Cost is \$300 per person, or \$250 with a non-refundable deposit of \$75 made by Dec. 12. For congregations who send three or more people, the cost is \$200 per person with a \$225 deposit made by Dec. 12. Please register soon so we’ll know if we have the numbers to run the course. Online registration is at kipcor.org (Managing Differences within Faith Communities link), or call KIPCOR at 316-284-5217.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Keep Melissa Clarkson, Garris, Liara and all the family that surrounds them, in your prayers.
- Please pray for the upcoming children’s Christmas program on December 16. Pray that the children will learn and be confident with their parts and that God will be glorified in the sharing of their gifts.
- Western District Conference: Pray for WDC’s Ministerial Leadership Commission as they support credentialed ministers and offer leadership training and resources.
- Mennonite Mission Network: Praise God for Linda Oyer, who retired this year after three decades of service in France through Mennonite Mission Network. Pray for a smooth transition as she moves to the United States and speaks in churches. In “retirement,” she plans to return to France twice a year to teach and lead workshops.