

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

Halstead, Kansas
Third Sunday in Advent
December 16, 2018

Gathering Music	Cindy Siemens
Welcome and Announcements	Pastor Steve
Centering Music	
Call to Worship Advent Candle Lighting	
Children's Christmas Program	Bulletin Insert
Offering and Offertory	Western District Conference
Special Music <i>Welcome to our World</i>	Choir
Prayer of Praise and Concern	Pastor Steve
*Closing Song <i>Angels we have Heard on High – HWB #197</i>	
*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

Dec. 16	12:00 pm	Carry-in Meal & Goody Tins
Dec. 19	6:30 pm	Prayer Meeting
Dec. 24	7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service
Dec. 31	7:00 pm	New Year's Eve Party

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Secretary Note: The deadline for the January newsletter is this week, Thursday, Dec. 20. Thank you!

The Hospitality Ministry invites you to stay for a carry-in following worship today. We will pack goody tins to distribute at the Neighbors Store following lunch. The Christmas caroling originally scheduled has been cancelled.

A new church nursery schedule will be made soon. If you would like to be added into the rotation, please let Kaitlen know.

The Christmas Eve worship service will begin at 7 pm on December 24. Plan to attend this special service to celebrate Christmas with your church family and friends. Invite someone to share it with you!

We will have our annual New Year's Eve party at the church on Monday, Dec. 31 starting at 7 pm. Bring snacks to share and games to play! We will also have a White Elephant gift exchange, which is always a highlight of the night. Invite your family and friends!

A set of keys was found at First Mennonite Church in McPherson after the German dinner on December 1. You may call the church at 620-241-4040 to identify and claim.

Come celebrate Christmas! The Resource Library is decked out in its Christmas finery. Come take a look and go home with a good book! (or DVD). There are stories for all ages, pictures to color, giant Advent posters, and scratch off ornaments to make. We will mail books and other Christmas fun to you! Just let us know. crlib@mennowdc.org We're open 8am-5pm all week! (Closed December 24-January 1.) 2517 N. Main in North Newton.

Camp Mennoscah is now accepting applicants for a quarter-time (10 hours/week) custodial position. The position starts January 2, 2019, and will remain open until filled. Contact Olivia at 620-297-3290 or olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org for further information.

Kauffman Museum is open through the holidays (closed Mondays, plus Tues., Christmas Day, and Tues., New Year's Day): hours 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays, Sat.-Sun., 1:30-4:30 p.m. Visit the current special exhibit "Better Choose Me: Collecting and Creating with Tobacco Fabric Novelties, 1880-1920," featuring the collection of the late Ethel Ewert Abrahams. See www.bethelks.edu/kauffman/ or the Kauffman Museum Facebook page for more information.

This Christmas, consider giving alternative gifts through Mennonite Central Committee! With 25 ways to give, you can find something for everyone in your family! Give chickens, provide hope, education, tools and new skills to help build up communities. These are gifts that easily fit under the tree and can fit within any budget, but have the power to bring joy for years to come! Visit mcc.org/christmas or call our office for details, 316.283.2720.

Looking for a unique Christmas gift this year? Consider buying one of the resources on the Conference Resource Library's wish list in honor of your loved one! The Resource Library is excited to partner with Faith & Life Bookstore for this project. Visit our list & purchase online OR visit the wishing tree in the store. All items purchased will be delivered to the library and added to the collection in January. <http://faithandlifebookstore.net/wdc-resource-library-wish-list/>

PASTOR: Steve Wilcox

www.firstmennonitehalstead.org

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Cell Phone: 316-322-5651

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

WELCOMERS TODAY

ORGANIST/PIANIST

NURSERY TODAY

CHURCH ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

OFFERING LAST SUNDAY

Church Budget (designated)	\$5,375.00
Neighbors	50.00
Sound System	500.00
MCC Relief Kits	105.00
Christmas Treats	135.00

OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY

WELCOMERS NEXT SUNDAY

NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY

Jim & Lois Loflin

Cindy Siemens

No nursery today

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Mutual Aid Fund

Arnita Haury

Jason Smoker & Lauren Mueller



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Borderlands Tour: WDC Immigration Task Force invites you to register for the May 6-11, 2019 MCC South Texas Borderlands Learning Tour. Go to <https://mcc.org/get-involved/events/learning-tour-south-texas-borderlands> to register. Cost: \$650. For more information, please contact Kathy at 316-283-6300.

Camp Winter Wonderland Worship on Dec. 28 from 3-6pm! Join us for songs from evening worship at summer youth camps (praise and worship songs) at Camp Mennoscah in the Dining Hall. Enjoy classic *Sunday* camp sandwiches, hot chocolate, time by the campfire/fireplace, and the warmth that comes from being surrounded by friends at camp! Also, TP the Christmas tree! We'll metaphorically TP our Christmas tree with your donations of toilet paper or paper towels. Cash or checks for 4-square/gaga balls are welcome, too. RSVP by December 26 to 620-297-3290 or office@campmennoscah.org so we know how many sandwiches to fix--and tell us about any food allergies.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Pray for Allen and Karolyn Unruh and the treatment of the tumor that was found in Karolyn. Pray for strength to face this, healing in every way possible, and peace to settle over them.
- Please pray for Marilyn, Alan, Garris, Liara, and the rest of Melissa's family as they mourn her passing. Pray that God will hold them all close as they navigate this new terrain in life with her gone.
- Western District Conference: Pray for WDC chaplains and pastors who offer caring ministry to those seeking healing, hope and comfort.
- Mennonite Mission Network: Prayer is requested for Mark and Mary Hurst as they prepare to move to a new area west of Sydney. Pray for them as they settle in and continue their ministry of teaching, peacemaking and hospitality with the Anabaptist Association of Australia and New Zealand.