

THIS WEEK @ FMC - August 6-12, 2025

Hope is not the expectation
that something will turn out well,
but the certainty that something is worth doing
no matter how it turns out.

~Vaclav Havel

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP at 9:30am

The link to join is on our website: www.hutchfmc.org Join 5 minutes early for announcements. The bulletin can be found under the BULLETINS tab on our home page.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025 – OBSTACLES TO SEEING GOD AT WORK & JOINING IN: Preserving Systems and Status Quo

John 9:13-17, 24-34

Back to School Blessing

Preacher: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Peace Essay: Adrianna Peach

Worship Leader: Anita Kehr

Musicians: Shane Miller, Trae Gehring, Tambra Stucky, Pastor Tonya

Children's Time: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Scripture Reader: Jean Gaeddert

Prayers of the People: Tonya Ramer Wenger (text prayer concerns to 620-513-2828)

Ushers: Susan Combs & Joretta Martens

Nursery Attendant: Joy Miller

Sound Tech: Adam Pounds

Livestream Tech: Joel Iwashige

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

During each worship service, you are invited to text your prayer joys and concerns – usually to Pastor Tonya. You are also invited to send prayer joys & concerns during the week. The recording of our worship service is public, so let us know if you'd prefer your request to only be shared via email during the week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are scrolled Sunday mornings before and after worship. There will be no spoken announcements unless there are pressing announcements that did not make it into the PowerPoint. Please send any announcements you'd like to have included to the church office by Thursday each week.

OFFERINGS

We welcome, and are grateful for, your financial donations to our ministry here in Hutchinson. Instead of collecting an offering during worship (except on special occasions), an offering box is placed at the back of the sanctuary for your Sunday morning donations. You can also now make a donation directly from our website (www.hutchfmc.org) using a credit card or your banking account. You are also welcome to send a check to 52 Rambler Rd Hutchinson KS 67502.

CALENDAR – LOOKING AHEAD

August 2-9 – Senior Youth + Sponsors in Tucson AZ with Mennonite Mission Network Peace Pilgrimage
August 8-9 – Western District Conference, Hesston, KS
August 10 – Back to School blessing during worship; Peace Essay presented by Adrianna Peach
August 10 – Baptism of Hannah Nisly and Adrianna Peach @ Camp Mennoscah (*gather by 6:00pm in the shelter, bring lawn chairs or sit on benches, fellowship with cookies will follow*)
August 11 – Craft Night, 6:30-8:00pm in Fellowship Hall
August 17 – Peace Essays presented by Hannah Nisly and Reuben Wenger
August 31 – Stay after worship to assemble MCC School kits; then potluck meal at 11:30
August 31 – Cloris Enns 90th birthday open house, 2:00-4:00pm, 2802 Dickens, Hutchinson

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS (at 7:00pm) IN AUGUST

August 13 – 7:00pm Senior Youth Group report on Christ at the Border Peace Pilgrimage
August 20 – 7:00pm Anabaptism @ 500 Zurich Switzerland sharing: Jennalee Boggs, Joretta & Delon Martens
August 27 – 7:00pm MennoCon 25 and WDC Assembly delegate reporting

DELEGATES FOR WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE ASSEMBLY

The annual Western District Conference Assembly will be held at Hesston Mennonite Church, August 8-9, with the theme, **Anabaptism@500: Faithfulness Then and Now** based on Hebrews 12:1-2 and 1 Corinthians 3:11. FMC will be represented by the following delegates: Adrienne Derstine, Julie Goering, Delon Martens, Joy Miller and Ken Neufeld. More information on the Assembly is available at [2025 Annual Assembly - Western District Conference](#)

REMINDER: If you are last one out of the church building, be **SURE** the doors lock behind you.

DEEPENING in Christ...

PRAYER GROUPS & OPPORTUNITIES

If you would like to join with others at FMC for prayer, please let the church office know. The Tuesday ecumenical **Centering Prayer group** is taking a SUMMER BREAK and will resume sometime in August. For more details, contact Pastor Tonya.

LPC: Listening-Prayer-Conversation Groups

These groups meet for an hour once/month in the Common Grounds room and are facilitated by Pastor Tonya. The format allows for time in prayer by yourself and also with the group. Any are welcome to join, or to just come and check it out! It's also possible to join on Zoom if you prefer.

The **Tuesday group's** next meeting is **Tuesday, August 12** at 1:00pm

The **Wednesday evening group's** next meeting is **Tuesday, August 12** at 6:30pm

SUMMER 2025 WORSHIP @ FMC – LEARNING TO SEE

*“This capacity to recognize and respond to the presence of God in all of life is a **spiritual habit and practice** that keeps us connected with God’s larger purposes for us and for our world, rather than being consumed by self-interest. As we become practiced at recognizing the presence and activity of God, we are able to align ourselves more completely with what God is doing in any given moment.*

-- Ruth Haley Barton (Sacred Rhythms)

Our summer worship began June 15 with a story inviting us to explore what it means for us to ‘*learn to see.*’ The invitation to learn to see God more clearly will continue throughout the summer as we hear stories of how we see God at work in our lives, receive peace essays from our seniors, and take a long look at the story of the man born blind whose sight is restored in John 9. This story is a lesson in some of the obstacles keeping us from seeing God at work. Interspersed throughout the summer will also be 3 opportunities (the last Sundays of June, July and August) to light candles as an expression of our prayers of lament and hope, and to be fed, nourished, and seek transformation as we encounter together the presence of the Risen Christ in Communion.

August 10 - *Obstacles to Seeing God at Work & Joining In: The Pharisees* (John 9:13-17; 24-34) -

Pastor Tonya preaching

August 17 - *Obstacles to Seeing God at Work & Joining In: The Parents* (John 9:18-23) –

Pastor Tonya preaching

August 24 - *Obstacles to Seeing God at Work & Joining In: The Healed Man* (John 9:24-41)

Eldon Wagler preaching

August 31 - Prayers of Lament & Hope and Communion: Turning from Fear to Faith

Pastor Jim and Pastor Tonya

BAPTISMS SCHEDULED @ CAMP MENNOSCAH ON AUGUST 10 @ 6:00PM

Mark your calendars for the evening of August 10 for the baptism of Hannah Nisly and Adrianna Peach in the river at Camp Mennoscah. We’ll begin at 6:00pm in the shelter attached to the main building and will then move down to the river for the baptisms. After the baptisms we’ll have a time of fellowship with cookies back in the shelter area. Bring your own lawn chair if you don’t want to sit on the benches (which do not have backs). We will all need to leave camp by 8:00pm.

SUMMER Sunday School Classes and Dates

Mark your calendars for Sunday School at 11:00am on these dates:

August 10 and 24

Children through junior youth will be together in one class, and will be led in activities and discussion inspired by the book: *Let the Children Come to me, Nurturing Anabaptist Faith Within Families*

The Adult Class studying the Salt and Light Bible Study will also be meeting in the fellowship hall to study the summer topic of “*Exclusion and Embrace*” - a study of the Beatitudes “in motion” and Jesus’ “living water”—which is always about more than just water. Written by Timothy J. Geddert. A Zoom option will be available.

UPPER ROOM and REJOICE! devotional magazines - available above the mailboxes

- *UPPER ROOM* .. September, October
- *Rejoice!* .. September, October, November

STRENGTHENING Community Connections...

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

- Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm
- Wednesday 10:00am – 1:00pm

PASTOR TONYA’S HOURS/SCHEDULE

Office hours:

- Monday: Day Off
- Tuesday-Friday: generally working 8:00am-5:30pm
- “In Office” Hours: 9-2 Tuesday and Thursday; 10:00am-1:00pm Wednesdays
- Available other times by appointment.
- Available evenings and weekends (cell phone is most reliable)

Pastor Tonya’s Sabbatical dates (spread out between summer 2023-summer 2025)

The 9th and final retreat in “*Transforming Community*” is complete, but Pastor Tonya will be reading and working on the final paper/project for the program which is due in October. She also has plans to continue meeting once a quarter remotely with the small group she was a part of in the program.

CLORIS ENNS celebrates 90th birthday!

Cloris’s family invites the congregation to attend an open house in her honor on Sunday, August 31, 2:00-4:00pm. The event will be at her home, 2802 Dickens in Hutchinson.

CRAFT NIGHT . . Monday, August 11, 6:30-8:00pm

Join this group for fellowship and ministry. Talk to Diane Ziemer or Cheryl Warkentin for more information. This group welcomes you to join them at their regular gatherings on the second Monday of each month.

LOST & FOUND BOX . . August 31 is the deadline to claim anything that is yours!

Our Lost & Found Box is overflowing!! During the Sundays in August we will have a table in the foyer with items left behind. Check it out and take what is yours. Anything left after August 31 will be repurposed.

ARMS WIDE OPEN – FMC’s history book

The amazing story of First Mennonite Church’s 100 years is told in the history book prepared for our centennial celebration. Copies of the book are available for \$25.00 (cash or check). You can also purchase a book online at a price that includes the cost of shipping (click on the “DONATE” button on our website to find this option). Check with the church office to pick up a book.

STRETCHING to Serve as Christ Served...

SUNDAY MORNING DONATIONS FOR RENO COUNTY FOOD BANK:

August: Peanut Butter

Personal care/hygiene items such as these are appreciated anytime: toilet paper, laundry detergent, bath soap, Kleenex, deodorant, disposable razors, paper towels, shampoo, dish soap, hand/body lotion, toothpaste and toothbrushes. Travel size – new & unopened – are desirable.

FMC YOUTH GROUP SUMMER TRIP – *Just Peace Pilgrimage* with Mennonite Mission Network

Members of the FMC youth group (Hannah Nisly, Reuben Wenger, Ryker Wiens, Kate Vu, and Mya Cook) plus their sponsors (Jonathan Wenger, Tanya Martin Nisly) will be traveling to Tucson AZ August 2-9 to participate in a “Christ at the Borders” pilgrimage with Mennonite Mission Network. *During this pilgrimage to the United States-Mexico border, participants seek to better understand the realities and implications of migration, including the reasons causing it and how churches or communities of faith are responding to it. The experience invites people and communities to see, consider and then explore how to join together in response to such realities. How can we help those who, like us, seek a better life, wholeness and peace?* Please pray for the group as they prepare for and enter into this experience, and as they travel. We look forward to learning from them about their experience after they return.

HELP CHILDREN GET READY FOR SCHOOL!

MCC School Kits – Pick up a list of school supplies needed from the table in the foyer and **bring them to church by August 31**. On that day (Aug 31) we'll assemble kits during the Sunday School hour, so plan to stay for the fun of putting everything together!!

ADOPT-A-STUDENT . . a project of FIRST CALL FOR HELP. A donation of \$67.00 will provide a backpack filled with school supplies for a student right here in our community. Mail contributions to First Call for Help, PO Box 2203, Hutchinson KS 67504-2203, or place in secure Mail Drop box outside of First Call office at 17 West 2nd. A tax deductible receipt will be mailed to you. Deadline is August 10. All monetary donations received will be matched.

WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE WOMEN IN MISSION retreat plans

Online registration is open for the Women's & Girls' Retreat September 6-7 at Camp Mennoscah sponsored by Western District Women in Mission. Our speakers this year are Pastor Katherine Goerzen (Tabor Mennonite Church) and Pastor Laura Goerzen (First Mennonite, Newton). Go to westerndistrictwomeninmission.org for a detailed schedule, register and pay online, or print out forms to register and pay by mail. Registration is due August 29. Any questions? Email us at westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com. See you there - share the news and bring a friend!

BETHEL COLLEGE announcements

The 2025 issue of *Mennonite Life*, Bethel College's annual online journal, is now live at ml.bethelks.edu, with articles and reviews by Susan Fish, Ardie Goering, Don Goertzen, Peter Goerzen, Jeff Gundy, Michele Hershberger, Melanie Howard, Melanie Springer Mock, Justina Neufeld, Ken Rodgers, Mary Schertz and John D. Thiesen.

EVERENCE RESOURCES

Financial Choice (LSS) Webinar: Money talk for relationships: We all need to learn to talk about money, whether it's with ourselves, our partner/spouse, and/or our friends and family. Transparency about money can lead to stronger relationships and a higher level of financial health. Steve Bustos, Everence Stewardship Consultant, will host this webinar presented by Kim Miller of Financial Choice (LSS) on Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 2 p.m. or 8 p.m. ET. Register for the time that works best for you at everence.com/partners. Click here: [share this flyer](#).

FreedUp personal finance training: Are you looking for financial training based on Biblical principles? Discover personal finance training with the FreedUp financial program, which helps people develop strong habits for personal finances. Learn more and sign up at GetFreedUp.com Through Everence®, we have access to a discount code: pay \$19 instead of \$99 when you use code **fru24eve**. Click here: [share this flyer](#).

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE and ADVOCACY RESOURCES

At the recent **Mennonite Church USA** assembly, delegates approved an updated statement on Immigration: **Church Statement Resolution on Immigration / Declaración de toda la Iglesia sobre la inmigración** which also lists resources for education and ministry related to immigration justice.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mennonite Central Committee - Central States will host a virtual Know Your Rights Training on August 14 and 15, at 6-8 pm each day. For more information and registration, see <https://mcc.org/events/know-your-rights-training>. This 2-session training will equip 1-2 people from each congregation to lead a Know Your Rights training in their community. It will give insight on how to prepare community members for interactions with law enforcement officials, create a family preparedness plan, and prepare participants with detailed information in case of immigration detention. 956.904.7092. The training will be led by

Abraham Diaz Alonso, Immigration Program Coordinator for MCC-Central States. For more information, contact Abraham at abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org, 956.904.7092.

Additional resources are available at MCC's Immigrant Resources

website: <https://mcc.org/resources/immigrant-resources> - This includes ready-to-print Know Your Rights cards, family preparedness plan documents, and a link to find immigration legal support free or low cost.

PEACE CAMP for YOUNG ADULTS

They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. (Micah 4:3)

How can we live out God's call for justice and reconciliation through nonviolence in a world that is built on the myth of redemptive violence? If you are a young adult (18-30) concerned about the state of our world and energized to reimagine society built on God's vision of love and justice for all, come join us for a week of experiential learning rooted in theological reflection, peacebuilding practices, and real-world application. [View and download the flyer.](#)

When: September 21-27, 2025

Where: Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp, Divide, Colorado

Who: Young adults ages 18-30

How: Register [here](#) by August 31

Registration Fee: \$250.00 guarantees your spot at the camp

Register today for the MCC Immigration Learning Tour in South Texas, October 4-9. This immigration-focused learning tour presents a unique opportunity to engage directly with organizations making a positive impact on our neighbors. Find out more at mcc.org/learning-tour-texas.

MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK (MMN) newsletter

Just Peace Pilgrimages

- **South Africa Racial Justice Pilgrimage** — This pilgrimage will explore the long history and legacy of settler colonialism and apartheid, and will focus on the social constructs created around race, land dispossession and how they so thoroughly defined, and continue to define, South African society.
- **Underground Railroad Racial Justice Pilgrimage** — Explore the role of faith and faith communities that helped enslaved people escape their bonds. This chapter of the Racial Justice pilgrimage series delves deeper into the struggle for freedom, exploring the ways — both literal and figurative — people took in search of their emancipation.
- **Civil Rights Pilgrimage** — Led by MC USA Executive Director Glen Guyton, this young-adult focused, multiracial pilgrimage through the southern United States fosters shared learning and deep understanding of the racial divides that our society perpetuates. Date: October 28-November 2, 2025; register by September 15.

For more information on the Just Peace Pilgrimages, to sign up, or to inquire about scheduling a trip for you and your group, visit MennoniteMission.net/JustPeace or contact Stephanie Weaver at StephanieW@MennoniteMission.net.

Check out this link to hear stories about some of the many who have served in a variety of MMN programs. Might their amazing adventures inspire you to experience one of their service / learning opportunities? <https://mailchi.mp/mennonitemission.net/alumni-connections-16446729>

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE

As needs grow in Texas, MDS is there. As needs grow in the wake of deadly flooding in Texas, Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) volunteers are on the ground. [Click here to read more](#)

LIBERTY QUARTET in concert Saturday, August 23 at 7:00pm

Bethel Church (located 1 ½ miles south of Inman, extends and invitation to attend this evening of music. No admission fee – a love offering will be received.

MENNONITE CHURCH USA announcements

The MC USA Delegate Assembly installed Marty Lehman as the moderator for the new biennium and provided unanimous affirmation for a slate of new Executive Board members and other nominees, including incoming Moderator-elect Todd Lehman (no relation). Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/marty-lehman-as-moderator/

Last year, MC USA awarded Justice Fund grants to nine congregations involved in dismantling racism, addressing police brutality, reimagining policing and combating poverty. Read their inspiring stories and learn more about how your congregation can apply for the grant. Applicants planning to use the funds for immigration or climate justice will receive priority in 2025. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/justice-fund-2025

The big dove is here! MC USA has launched an online storefront featuring hats, sweatshirts, mugs and more. Check the selection of merch – sales support MC USA ministries! bonfire.com/store/mc-usa-gear/

A spirit of hope and shared purpose marked the opening of MC USA's biennial Delegate Assembly on July 11, 2025, as more than 350 delegates gathered in Greensboro, North Carolina, to reimagine the denomination's future and approve four key measures to strengthen and equip the church. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/news/delegates-propel-mc-usas-forward/

Litany in response to the escalation of violence involving Israel, Iran and the United States, reminding us of God's call to peace. Written by Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz.

God of love, who calls us to be peacemakers in a world of conflict, we come to you with heavy hearts as tensions continue to rise between nations.

Make us instruments of your peace.

We ask that you guide our leaders to seek wisdom, restraints and diplomacy as we move forward.

Make us instruments of your peace.

For those who are living in fear of escalating violence, we pray for safety and the right to live in a world where there is no war.

Make us instruments of your peace.

For those calling for peace, for justice, for dialogue, give each one courage and strength to speak truth to power.

Make us instruments of your peace.

May our church rise as a witness to peace and justice, rejecting war and proclaiming God's love for all.

Make us instruments of your peace.