

# THIS WEEK @ FMC

## August 27-September 2, 2025

Whatever this week holds for you and those you love (and those you struggle to love) hear this word of encouragement grounding us in a source far beyond anything we can accomplish, earn, or control. (This text is found in our Voices Together hymnal.) May this be the love we share with our world.

*More than you know, more than you know, God's love is with you.  
More than you know, more than you know, God cares for you.  
And more than you know, more than you know, God's love is in you,  
walking with you, holding you, living with you.* (VT 598 Connie Johnson-Evers)

-Pastor Tonya

### **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP at 9:30am**

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

### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 2025 – PRAYERS OF LAMENT & HOPE and COMMUNION**

#### **Turning from Fear to Faith**

#### **Psalm 56**

Preacher: Jim Unruh

Worship Leader: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Organist: Pauline Buller

Song Leader: Trae Gehring

Children's Time: Susan Combs

Scripture Reader: Delon Martens

Ministry Moment: Donna Davis – Reno County Food Bank

Prayers of the People: send prayer concerns to Pastor Jim

Communion Preparation: Dohn & Jeanette Fast

Communion Servers: Tonya Ramer Wenger, Jim Unruh, and others TBD

Ushers: Russ & Jean Gaeddert, Sadie Pritchett

Nursery Attendant: Russell & Julie Goering

Sound Tech: Earl Ediger & Allen Yoder

Livestream Tech: Jonathan Wenger

### **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](http://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 31 – Stay after worship to assemble MCC School kits; then potluck meal at 11:30  
August 31 – Cloris Enns 90<sup>th</sup> birthday open house, 2:00-4:00pm, 2802 Dickens, Hutchinson  
September 7 – Fall Sunday School Quarter begins, meeting every Sunday at 11:00am  
September 8 – Craft Night, 6:30-8:00pm, Fellowship Hall  
September 21 – Guess Who’s Coming for Sunday 5:30 Meal? – sign up as guest or host by September 7  
September 27 – FMC serves at the Soup Kitchen  
September 28 – FMC Safe Sanctuaries Training Noon-1pm – *required for ALL volunteers with children or youth at FMC*

## WEDNESDAY EVENINGS (at 7:00pm) IN AUGUST

August 27 – 7:00pm MennoCon 25 and WDC Assembly delegate reporting (Zoom link available to join virtually – check your FMC email, or contact the church office)

**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 September gatherings will be:

Tuesday Sept 9 at 1:00pm OR Wednesday Sept 10 at 6:30pm

## SUMMER 2025 WORSHIP @ FMC – LEARNING TO SEE

We are nearing the end of our summer worship series as we explore the interaction between the healed man and Jesus in John 9:24-41), and as we have our final Sunday of lighting candles as an expression of our prayers of lament and hope, and being fed, nourished, and seek transformation as we encounter together the presence of the Risen Christ in Communion.

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

## FALL WORSHIP @ FMC

Our fall worship series begins on September 7 with a return to the overarching story of the Bible provided by the Narrative Lectionary. This lectionary of readings begins with the story of creation in Genesis and then moves through the Old Testament leading up to Advent. After Christmas we turn our attention to walk with Jesus through the perspective of one of the four gospels (this year is John) which carries us through

Easter. After Easter we enter the story of the early church, culminating in our celebration of Pentecost. Along the way, we'll add in a couple of special Sundays (including Peace Sunday, World Communion Sunday, and Mission Festival), and one final peace essay from Adrianna Peach. We'll begin in September with several stories from the book of Genesis:

**September 7 - *Creation by the Word* (Genesis 1:1-2:4a)** – Pastor Tonya preaching

**September 14 – *Binding of Isaac* (Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14)** – Pastor Tonya preaching (+ blessing for Joy Miller as she begins as Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, and Sunday School teacher blessing)

**September 21 – *Jacob's Dream* (Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17)** – Pastor Tonya preaching (this is also Peace Sunday, with the theme from Mennonite World Conference – ***The Courage to Love*** based on *Matthew 22:34-40*)

## **FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for all ages begin September 7 (11am)!**

**Children (age 2-5<sup>th</sup> grade) and Junior Youth (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)** use [Shine Curriculum](#) from MennoMedia. This fall's theme is: ***Fall of a Kingdom***, focusing on "*Calling On God – Psalms*" and "*Exile and Restoration – 1 & 2 Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Ezra*".

**Senior Youth (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade)** meet with Jonathan Wenger, Tanya Martin Nisly, and various other teachers (including Pastor Tonya) through the year to build community, support each other, study the Bible, theology, and Anabaptist history. We also consider baptism, discuss current events and faith, and more, depending on the year.

**The Adult Class studying the Salt and Light Bible Study** this fall with the theme, "*Their Story, Our Story, and God's Message*," written by Osheta Moore. The study will include scripture texts from Genesis, Jeremiah and John's epistles. They will be meeting in the fellowship hall and a Zoom option will be available.

A "**Conversation & Connection**" group also meets during the Sunday School hour. Contact Maggie Pounds for more information or with questions about this group!

Sunday School classes meet at 11:00am throughout the church building. We do not have Sunday School on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays and on some major holidays.

## **ANNOUNCING OUR NEW CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR**

As shared during worship on August 10, we are pleased to announce we have hired Joy Miller to fill the role of a 10 hour/week Children's Faith Formation Coordinator. Joy will officially begin in this role on September 1, and we will have a time of blessing for her on September 14.

## **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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 mid-October. She also has plans to continue meeting once a quarter remotely with the small group she was a part of in the program. *As part of completing the program, Pastor Tonya will be establishing a 'rule of life' to help structure her ongoing spiritual grounding and learning, which will include intentional times apart (likely monthly and quarterly). The details of that are still being decided, and will be communicated with the congregation!!*

### **CLORIS ENNS celebrates 90<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **GUESS WHO'S COMING FOR SUNDAY 5:30pm SUPPER? – SEPTEMBER 21 AND OCTOBER 19**

Plan to spend an evening with friends from FMC this fall!! The Faithful Community Coordination Team is looking for volunteers to host a Sunday evening meal for a group of 8-10 (or whatever size you can accommodate). Hosts provide a main dish and those attending will be asked to bring a side dish to share.

**Sign up by Sept 7 to host or attend on Sunday evening, September 12.**

**Sign up by Oct 5 to host or attend on Sunday evening, October 19.**

*(Sign up sheet will be in the foyer soon!!)*

### **CRAFT NIGHT @ FMC on Monday, December 9, 2024**

Craft Night is on Monday, September 8, 6:30-8:00pm in the church Fellowship Hall. Bring your project – knitting, crocheting, other crafts – and enjoy this time of friendship and ministry together. Any questions, contact Cheryl Warkentin or Diane Ziemer.

### **URGENT NEED FOR BIKES for our friends from Congo**

Do you have a good bike in your garage that you're not using and for which you would like to find a new home? We are looking for two good quality, adult/teenage-sized bikes for our friends from Congo. If you have one you would consider finding a new home for, please contact Adam Pounds — 316 558 0411 and/or Eldon Wagler — 620 960 4041 and we'll have a look at it. If it meets the family's needs, we'll be happy to take it to its new home. Thank you very much.

### **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**

**September: Canned Meat/Tuna**

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.

## MCC SCHOOL KITS . . purchase supplies, help assemble kits and join us for a potluck!

**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!! **Then, at 11:30, we'll gather for an all-church potluck meal**. Bring a dish to share (label if it's gluten free, vegetarian, vegan, or has artificial sugar in it). If you can help clean up in the kitchen afterwards, please do so!

## 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](http://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](mailto:westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com). See you there - share the news and bring a friend!

## MENNONITE MIGRATION film to be part of Salt City Film Fest on September 25

As part of the Salt City Film Fest in Hutchinson at the Fox Theater Sept 25-27, the film "[Where the Cottonwoods Grow](#)" by Dale Hildebrand (Canada) will be shown at 7 pm on Thursday, September 25th. Tickets are \$5. The film tells the story of the Mennonite migration from Ukraine and Russia to North America. This is the same film that Kauffman Museum earlier sponsored for screening at Bethel College. Please join us! - SCFF Programming Director, Sheri Kaufman-Marsh.

## BETHEL COLLEGE announcements

**Sat., Oct. 4** (during Fall Festival): Internationally renowned theologian **Miroslav Volf**, Yale University, will speak at Bethel College Mennonite Church, 10 a.m.

**Sun., Oct. 19, and Mon., Oct. 20**: Dr. Kat Hill, a religious and cultural historian from Scotland, will give the annual **Menno Simons Lectures** [*please note that these dates are different from some previously printed material*].

**Sun.-Tues., Nov. 2-4**: The biennial **Worship and the Arts Symposium** will focus on homiletics (preaching) with special guest Dr. Luke Powery from Duke Divinity School at Duke University. The symposium will also feature an art exhibition by Merrill Krabill and the fall choral concert "Bethel Sings."

*More information on all these events will follow in the coming weeks.*

**The 2025 issue of *Mennonite Life*, Bethel College's annual online journal, is now live at [ml.bethelks.edu](http://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.

## MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Recycling opportunities at MCC in North Newton, KS!** MCC accepts the following materials for recycling, cardboard, books, and paper. We also recycle soft plastics (any plastic packaging that you can stretch with

your finger, including Amazon mailers and bubble wrap). We also accept and process wearable clothing, shoes and purses/bags. However, it is best to donate those items to an Et Cetera Shop first, if possible. When you arrive at MCC, follow the signs toward the warehouse and you'll find bins outside under the covered roof for each recyclable item. MCC is located at 121 E. 30<sup>th</sup> Street in North Newton, questions can be directed to [duaneunruh@mcc.org](mailto:duaneunruh@mcc.org) or 316.283.2720.

### **CAMP MENNOSCAH announcements**

**The Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat is October 10-12.** Registration is not yet open, but will be soon. Activities and lodging will be in the dining hall and bunkhouses.

**Camp Mennoscah's Annual Meeting will be held at Hope Mennonite Church on October 19 at 6:30pm.** All are invited to attend.

**Volunteers are needed for grounds work.** This could be mowing, trail maintenance, string trimming, poison ivy and sticker plant control, or likely any number of other things. Contact us at 620-297-3290 to discuss opportunities!

### **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](https://MennoniteMission.net/JustPeace) or contact Stephanie Weaver at [StephanieW@MennoniteMission.net](mailto: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**

Our **August edition of On the Level** is now available. In this edition, Executive Director Kevin King reflects on the impact of Katrina, 20 years ago this month; we also celebrate this years cohort of year-long volunteers; and you'll meet two pillars of faith in action, celebrating 14 years of MDS service.

Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3UFiw2x>

**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](#)**

## **MENNONITE CHURCH USA announcements**

**The MC USA Women's Summit 2025**, hosted by MC USA's Women in Leadership ministry, addressed learning to pause, restore and resist. This dichotomy was discussed by inviting participants to consider a radical way to think about rest – as not just a necessity, but as an act of defiance. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/news/womens-summit-2025/](https://mennoniteusa.org/news/womens-summit-2025/)

The MC USA Women's Summit on Monday, July 8, featured two panels where the attendees heard from eight women and gender-expansive people about their experiences in leadership. Eight panelists spoke at MC USA's Women's Summit. Read more here: [mennoniteusa.org/news/panelists/](https://mennoniteusa.org/news/panelists/)

**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/](https://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/](https://mennoniteusa.org/news/delegates-propel-mc-usas-forward/)

## **BORDERLINKS . . . Deepen your understanding of borders, migration, and social justice**

- **Mass Incarceration** – virtual workshop Thursday, August 28, 5-7pm CDT  
Information and registration options here: <https://www.borderlinks.org/events>

## **ANABAPTIST MENNONITE BIBLICAL SEMINARY . . . conference on Land and Christian Discipleship – Thursday, Sept. 18 – Saturday, Sept. 20**

AMBS campus, with selected parts livestreamed. Building on the six conferences held since 2014, the seventh Rooted and Grounded Conference will explore the theme, **“Kinship with All Creation: Pursuing Relationship, Justice and Community.”** Our keynote addresses will focus on restoring relationships with land and creation, confronting and repairing ecological injustice, and participating in solidarity with the suffering of all creatures. Optional in-person **immersion experiences** will be held on Thursday afternoon, before the conference begins. INFORMATION here: <https://ambs.edu/rooted-and-grounded/>

### **Keynote speakers** (in chronological order of their presentations)

- Wendsler Nosie, Sr., PhD, of the Apache Stronghold and the American University of Sovereign Nations
- T. Wilson Dickinson, PhD, of Lexington Theological Seminary
- Douglas Day Kaufman, ThM, of the Anabaptist Climate Collaborative

Register by Sept. 11 for meals and by Sept. 16 for the conference.

## **SWISS MENNONITE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**

The annual banquet will be held Saturday, October 18, at 5:00pm at the Burrton City Auditorium. The speaker will be Peter Buller, a recent Bethel College graduate, whose presentation will be about his recent experience at Reba Place in Chicago, connecting with bigger themes about our role as Mennonite in the world. Tickets are \$25 and reservations are requested by October 11, by texting Dave Stucky at 620-532-4408 or check the website [www.swissmennonite.org](https://www.swissmennonite.org)