

Isaiah: A Child Is Born

People who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

November 16, 2025 First Mennonite Church

WE GATHER & PRAISE

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship*

One: Rejoice in what God has done!

All: Already, God's light shines in the shadows.

One: Look — abundant life is planted here!

All: We can't see it all yet, but we keep looking.

One: Peace has been born into the world!

All: And we will make it known.

Prayer*

HYMN Praise the Lord VT 95

Passing the Peace – Fellowship Greeting

Greet those around you with the peace of Christ!

HYMN Be Thou My Vision VT 549

WE HEAR GOD'S STORY

Children's Time

HYMN This Little Light of Mine VT 762

Scripture Reading Isaiah 9:1-7; John 8:12

Sermon

Music for Meditation

WE TELL OUR STORIES

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer (VT 989B with 'sins')

WE GO TO LIVE INTO GOD'S STORY

HYMN My Soul Cries Out VT 412 Benediction* Postlude

*Worship Liturgy (Call to Worship, Prayers, Benediction) written by Rev. Teri Peterson.

Photo on front of bulletin: by Raimond Klavins on Unsplash

If you need a hearing assist device, please ask at the sound booth in the back of the sanctuary.

Salthawk Community Support is again collecting \$25 gift cards (WalMart, Amazon, etc.) for students at HMS8 and Hutch High for Christmas. Bring your gift cards by December 1st (place in the box on the table under the bulletin boards).

The Hat, Mitten & Sock tree is up in the foyer! Place donations of new items in the basket by **Dec 15**, and we'll deliver to Salvation Army.

The Nursery is typically staffed with a volunteer care provider during worship (and Sunday School as needed). Children are also welcome to remain in the sanctuary! Worship bags with drawing/coloring materials are provided at the back of the sanctuary.

Sound: Earl Ediger & Allen Yoder
Livestream: Jonathan Wenger
Ushers: Russ & Jean Gaeddert
Sadie Pritchett
Nursery: TBD
Pianists: Peggy Stucky, DeAnna Goering
Worship Leader: Anita Kehr
Song Leader: Shane Miller
Children's Time: Heidi Unruh
Scripture Reader: Jean Gaeddert

Preacher: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Reno County Food Bank donations for November: Canned fruit

ADDRESSING INCREASED HUNGER IN RENO COUNTY

Ending hunger in Reno County isn't a job for one church or one organization — it requires all of us working together. **On Nov 19 from 5-7pm 21 area churches will 'leave their lights on' while collecting donations of non-perishable food for the Food Bank of Reno County.** The Food Bank of Reno County suggests these items: pasta, peanut butter, mac&cheese, cereal, canned meats, vegetables, fruits, and canned soups.

Advent Worship begins on November 30! Our worship series this year comes from Illustrated Ministry, focusing on

the theme **The Will to Dream**: "In this time of upheaval, we find trust is fragile, truth contested, and spaces between us feel harder to cross. Divisions stretch far and wide. The constant churn of political tension leaves many feeling anxious and uncertain. Community feels strained, and connection is harder to come by. Hearts are weary, and souls unsettled, and people of all perspectives are searching—not just for answers, but for understanding, healing, and hope. This ache is not weakness; it is a holy longing—a sacred desire for a world made whole. From this longing comes the will to dream—a persistent courage to imagine, resist, and rebuild a better world."



TODAY:

Text prayer requests to Pastor Tonya @ 620-513-2828

Offerings to support FMC mission and ministry are received in the offering box at the back, or on our website.

Fellowship time with drinks after worship in Common Grounds Sunday School @ 11:00 for all ages

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- November 19 We'll Leave Our Lights On drive for Food Bank (5-7pm)
- November 21 Bethel College and Hutchinson Community College Choirs joint concert in our sanctuary at 7:00pm.
- November 22 FMC serves at the Soup Kitchen
- November 30 First Sunday of Advent
- December 7 FMC Annual Congregational Meeting
- **December 10** Choir rehearsal, 5:15pm (second rehearsal Dec. 17)
- December 21 Lessons & Carols worship service

Bethel College Choir in joint concert with HCC choir will be in our sanctuary on Friday, November 21 at 7:00pm. Dr. Russell Adrian, the BC choir director, is inviting us to join this effort of community building with musicians and the community college right here in our neighborhood. The choirs will rehearse during the afternoon, have a meal provided by FMC and then bring us their program at 7:00pm. Sign up in the foyer to provide food items for the "Haystack" supper we will provide. Please join us in extending hospitality and in being blessed by the music they will share.

<u>Singers invited to join the choir for Lessons & Carols worship service</u> – rehearsals on December 10 & 17 at 5:15pm. Whether you've sung before or would like to join us this year, please come. Please let Pauline know by text or email that you plan to sing. Lessons & Carols will be on December 21.

<u>Giving Tuesday @MCC – Dec. 2, 6:30-8:00pm</u> – a come-&-go event for all ages! Check out the poster in the foyer for a list of activities.



Arms Wide Open: To Serve & Be Served

Phone: 620-662-9385

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9-2pm; Wed 12-3pm

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Pastor Jim Unruh: <u>jhunruh.ju@gmail.com</u>

Children's Faith Formation Coordinator, Joy Miller: joy@hutchfmc.org