

THIS WEEK @ FMC - February 18-24, 2026

*To take the sign of the cross
means to allow oneself to be stretched out wide
in solidarity with the Christ
and in compassion for all,
even at cost,
and to believe against defeat and despair
that hope can rise and life begin again.*

---William Loader

You are invited to come this Wednesday evening (Feb 18) to mark the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday service. We'll begin at 7:00pm in our basement fellowship hall and are happy to once again offer this as a joint service with Community Church of the Brethren. This is a more contemplative service with singing, scripture, imposition of ashes, prayers around the cross, and a brief meditation. There are quiet activities for the children provided during the service, and this year we are adding a short special time for the children concurrent to the rest of the service, led by Joy Miller. Children, youth and adults are all invited to receive ashes if you wish. If you'd like to join on zoom, check your church email, or contact me (tonya@hutchfmc.org) for the link.

---Pastor Tonya

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, FEBRUARY 22, 2026 – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT: JESUS RAISES LAZARUS

God of new life, As Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, renew and restore us to new life, leaving in the grave all that prevents us from loving you fully. Amen

John 11:1-44 (Psalm 104:27-30)

Preacher: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Worship Leader: Stephanie Gehring

Pianist: Shelley Kauffman

Song Leader: Jon Miller

Children's Time: TBD

Scripture Reader: Randy Rempel

Prayers of the People: send prayer concerns to Pastor Tonya 620-513-2828

Ushers: Jon & Martha Miller

Nursery Attendant: TBD

Sound Tech: Shane Miller

Livestream Tech: Jay Gehring

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

February 18 – Book Study, CHERISHED BELONGING (Gregory Boyle) meets @ 1:00pm

February 18 – Ash Wednesday Service @ 7:00pm with Community Church of the Brethren

February 19 – Congregational Ministry Team (CMT) meets at 5:30pm

February 22 – First Sunday of Lent

February 27 – Mennonite Friendship Communities Liverwurst & Fried Mush fundraiser, 5:00-8:00pm

February 28 – Next Singing Group @ Wenger's: 5pm potluck (bring a dish to share) and 6pm singing begins!

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.

Tuesday (11:00am-Noon) ecumenical Centering Prayer group is meeting weekly. 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.

Upcoming gatherings are: Tuesday February 17 at 1:00pm (note date change)
Wednesday March 11 at 6:30pm

WINTER SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for all ages @ 11am

Children (age 2-5th grade) and Junior Youth (6th-8th) use Shine Curriculum from MennoMedia. This winter's theme is: ***The Upside-Down Kingdom***, focusing on *Jesus; birth and the counter-cultural stories he told*.

Senior Youth (9th-12th grade) meets weekly for Sunday School in the youth room upstairs with Jonathan Wenger and Tanya Martin Nisly.

The Adult Class studying the Salt and Light Bible Study this winter with the theme, *"Living God's Abundant Life,"* by Jo-Ann A. Brant. The study will include scripture texts from John, 1 Thessalonians and Lamentations. They are meeting in the fellowship hall and a Zoom option will be available.

A “**Conversation & Connection**” adult group also meets informally 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 5th Sundays and on some major holidays.

LENT 2026 – *Dwelling in Dissonance* (begins with Ash Wednesday on Feb 18)

This year, the entire season of Lent is framed by the experience of Holy Week as recorded in the Gospel of John. We’re invited to linger in the intensity of the final week of Jesus’ life, to dwell in the dissonance. Dissonance might be a word many of us would use to describe the kind of time we are living in, and we long to find relief from the dissonant uncertainty we are experiencing. As we anticipate the beginning of Lent, consider the invitations found in this poem:

*As we step into Lent,
we say ‘welcome’ to the dissonance.
We reserve a space for lament and grief,
to stay awhile and do their work.
We release our nice little pictures
of perfect selves, perfect faith, perfect world.
and look for God in the heartache.
We listen for God in discordant melodies.
And follow Jesus to the cross,
though we don’t understand
and it doesn’t compute.
As we step into Lent,
we say ‘welcome’ to the dissonance.
Trusting that God is here.
Now. In the mystery.
Before it is resolved.*

(from The Leader Winter 2025-2026 Lent Worship Resources)

PRAYGROUND EXPERIMENT DURING LENT!

During the Sundays in Lent we are going to be offering a space for Children in the front of the sanctuary called a prayground. This idea was introduced through Western District Conference's Kids Meet Christ workshops. They have supplied the resources, information, and support to make this possible.

The idea of a prayground is to make space in our sanctuary for children to become worshipers in their own imaginative and creative ways. On the floor in the front of the sanctuary, on the side with the piano, we'll have a rug and blanket, a small table and chairs for playdoh, and Lent themed play dough mats, colored scarves, and wooden painted people to act out the bible stories shared from the pulpit. We'll also have coloring pages and crayons. Kids who are in 3rd grade and under are welcome to come up to the prayground after Children’s time and can stay until the end of the service. Parents, if your children are at the prayground please sit in the front in case your kids might need you.

We'll be trying this out for the Sundays during Lent, up until Easter. Thanks for being open to this idea and welcoming the kids into a different way of worshiping together.

Warmly,
Joy

LENT LUNCHES ARE HAPPENING AGAIN THIS YEAR!!

Mark your calendars for the Wednesdays of Lent (Feb 25-March 25) from Noon-1:00pm. Five churches, including ours, will host a worship service and a shared lunch together around the theme of Justice. The churches hosting these events follows:

- February 25 Trinity United Methodist Church, 1602 North Main Street
- March 4 Emanuel Lutheran Church, 140 East 30th Avenue (*Pastor Tonya preaching*)
- March 11 First Presbyterian Church, 201 East Sherman Avenue
- March 18 Grace Episcopal Church, 2 Hyde Park Drive
- March 25 First Mennonite Church, 52 Rambler Road

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

- *UPPER ROOM* . . March, April
- *Rejoice!* .. March, April, May

STRENGTHENING Community Connections...

CHURCH OFFICE REGULAR HOURS

- Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm
- Wednesday 12 noon – 3:00pm (No Wednesday hours on Feb 25)

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; noon-3pm Wednesdays
- Available other times by appointment.
- Available evenings and weekends (cell phone is most reliable)

Tonya's next monthly 'day apart' is **Wednesday February 25** (NO regular office hours that day!)

2025 INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION REPORTS

If you would like your giving report from FMC, please email me at mikedirks@earthlink.net or call 620-474-1224. - Mike Dirks

FEBRUARY 22 SHOWING OF "WHERE THE COTTONWOODS GROW" @ 4PM

This powerful documentary commemorates the extraordinary 20,000-kilometre migration of Mennonites from South Russia (present-day Ukraine) to Manitoba in the 1870s. Invite your friends and bring snacks to share!

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT FIRST (WNAF) BEGIN FEBRUARY 25

Our upcoming WNAF session will focus on our STRENGTHENING (community, connection, leadership) priority as a congregation. Dinner will be served between 5:30-6:30pm and the program (with activities for kids) from 6:30-7:30pm. The schedule as it stands right now is below – but is subject to change!

Feb 25 – Asset Mapping Exercise Part 1 with Pastor Tonya

March 4 – Asset Mapping Exercise Part 2 with Pastor Tonya

March 11 – Community Circle Conversations

March 18 – Game & Puzzle Night (bring games and puzzles with you!)

TENTATIVE: March 25 – MCC Connections – work night and learning session

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.

GRAINS OF GLORY – THE KANSAS MENNONITE STORY - DVD AVAILABLE

Thanks to a generous donor, a DVD copy of *Grains of Glory – The Kansas Mennonite Story* produced by PCS Kansas Channel 8 is available in our church library.

STRETCHING to Serve as Christ Served...

RENO COUNTY FOOD BANK

March: canned veggies (especially green beans)

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.

Nourishing Our Future Capital Campaign

The Reno County Food Bank will be moving to a new location at 4th and Severence. Their capital campaign will fund the necessary renovations and the purchase of equipment at this location. Contributions may be made online at: <https://www.foodbankofrenocounty.org/campaign> or by sending a check to the Food Bank at this address: Food Bank Capital Campaign, 800 N Walnut, Hutchinson KS 67501. Brochures are available on the table in the foyer or talk with Donna Davis for more information.

SALTHAWK COMMUNITY SUPPORT (SCS)

Salthawk Community Support is a local nonprofit housed under the umbrella of Trinity UMC that FMC has been involved with from its beginning through Pastor Tonya’s involvement on the board and donations of time, finances, and items from many of you in the congregation. There is a basket in the foyer under the table designated for donations of gently used clothing (appropriate for teens) as well as new toiletry items (especially gender-neutral deodorant). We are also looking for **adults to mentor high school youth**. This involves meeting with them once/week for 30-45 minutes to be a supportive and encouraging presence. Talk to Pastor Tonya if interested in exploring this.

SECONDS ON 2nd update . . . 118 West 2nd Avenue

PLEASE NOTE: previously announced dates are changing. Watch for new dates coming soon.

It has been a few weeks since I have given an update on the progress of the ETC Seconds on 2nd building. Remodeling has begun on the new bathrooms; doorways cut, ceiling removed in the middle portion of the building and work on the floors is to begin soon. The Builders Bargain building on 5th St is closed, and shelving is being painted and dismantled.

In order to prepare for the opening of the Seconds on 2nd building, a lot of work will need to be completed. There is no definite opening date but hopefully in 2-3 months. In order to be prepared for the opening, volunteers will need to be trained and additional volunteers will be needed as the square feet of the new building is doubled, compared to BB.

The ETC Board is reaching out to all ETC sponsoring churches and interested community people to announce that there will be 3 opportunities for a "behind the scenes tour" of 2nd on 2nd building. This open house will allow individuals to see all the many departments where an individual can volunteer. Some of the areas are:

Small engine, lawn equipment and repairing
Appliances, plumbing, electrical, lighting repairing and cleaning
Vintage and repurposing of furniture
Home decor
Sorting and packaging of hardware
Building display and storage units
Cashiers
 Receiving donated items (Prior use of forklift would be of great help.)
 Assist customers on the floor and help loading purchased items
 And many other ways

Dates are being planned for you to come and see ways you can be involved in this next exciting new adventure. We will explain the mission of the ETC. We will hear where proceeds from sales are distributed to local non-profit organizations and around the world through MCC. And yes, refreshments will be provided. This is another way you can be involved in serving our Lord AND, this is for WOMEN and MEN!

Finally, you may have had some involvement with ETC or none at all. This is a time to come and see with no strings attached. You might be interested in volunteering 1 day a month, more, or a flex schedule. . . up to you. No RSVP is needed. Come to 1 or all 3 events. If you know of other individuals that might have an interest in this service opportunity, please feel free to invite them. Thanks again for considering this opportunity.
 - Tom and ETC Board.

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH of HALSTEAD . . . Verenike Supper, Feb 28, 4:30-7:00pm

Dine-in (Fellowship Hall) or Carry out (west side on Santa Fe). Donations received will support Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale and Youth Group/other ministries.

BETHEL COLLEGE announcements

Tues., Feb. 17 – Bethel College Chamber Orchestra concert, Kris Hilding, director, 7 p.m., Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center

Life Enrichment, the series at Bethel College for adults age 60 and older, meets most Wednesday mornings during the school year in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. This week's programs (Feb. 18): 9:30 a.m., "Kansas Women in the Fight for the 19th Amendment – Did They Win?" (note title change), Donna Becker, certified first-person performer; 10:50 a.m., "Travel with a Wiseguy Exploring Off the Beaten Path," John Wise, travel YouTuber. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/academics/life-enrichment/> for details and a link to the complete spring schedule.

Fri., Feb. 20 – "Daily Commitments," an exhibit by Rachel Epp Buller, opens in the Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College (reception March 12). Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.

Sun.-Mon., Feb. 22-23 – Bethel College will host Jamie Pitts, professor of Anabaptist studies at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, for the Staley Lectures: "Becoming a 'Front Light' for Justice? Mennonite Positions on Social Transformation," Sun., Feb. 22, 7 p.m., Ad Building chapel; "Would Jesus Kill

Hitler?," **Mon., Feb. 23, 11 a.m.**, *Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center*. The lectures are inspired by the Gospel of Matthew and Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship* (the two senior capstone common texts for 2025-26), and are free and open to the public.

Weds.-Fri., Feb. 25-27 – Bethel College and KIPCOR present the biennial Justice Symposium, with immigration advocate Karen González, author of *Beyond Welcome* and *The God Who Sees*. González will deliver the **Peace Lecture Weds., Feb. 25, at 7 p.m.** in Kidron Hall at Kidron Bethel Village. The symposium also includes a **legal panel discussion on Thurs., Feb. 26, 7 p.m.** at Bethel College Mennonite Church and a **Know your Rights training Fri., Feb. 27, 7 p.m.**, in the 1887 Cafe on the Bethel campus. For a complete schedule, see <https://kipcor.org/event/2026-justice-symposium/> (or the attached flyer)

Thurs., Feb. 26 – Bethel College Wind Ensemble concert, Chris Miertschin, director, 7 p.m., *Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center*

Fri., March 6 & Sat., March 7, 7 p.m., Sun., March 8, 2 p.m. – Bethel College music and theater departments present: *Alice by Heart*, a retelling of *Alice in Wonderland* set during the London blitz of World War II, *Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College*. Friday night performance interpreted for the D/deaf community. Ticket purchase required, at <https://www.bethelks.edu/fine-arts/theater/theater-department-presents/#tickets>, at Thresher Shop in Schultz Student Center weekdays 8 a.m.-5 p.m., or at the door. *Contains adult content and is not intended for young audiences.*

HESSTON MENNONITE CHURCH . . A LENTEN RETREAT: "Yearning for Wholeness; Abiding in Hope"
Sat, Feb 21; 8:30 AM – Noon at Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 South Main Street, Hesston, KS.

We live in a time of anxiousness, injustice and chaos. Do you yearn for safe space to be in touch with your inner longings, and to connect with the healing and hope of Christ that sustains us? Join us for a half day retreat which will provide intentional space to experience the presence of God through Scripture, prayer, song and community in this Lenten season. Our schedule will include times of individual reflection and group interaction facilitated by Wendy Miller.

Contact the church office at 620.327.4885 or hesstonmc@hesstonmc.org to sign up by Thurs Feb 19. \$10 donation suggested. We hope you will join us!

HESSTON COLLEGE announcements

Coming soon to Hesston College's Black Box Theater, "Xanadu"

March 5 to 7 at 7 p.m. and March 8 at 2 p.m. We all remember the wild 1980 movie "Xanadu" with Olivia Newton John and Gene Kelly! No? Well, that's ok. It did have great music, but that story...wow. A Greek muse from Mount Olympus comes to earth to help a struggling artist open the world's first roller disco and, of course, fall in forbidden love. Fast forward to 2007 when the stage musical, with an award-winning script, opens on Broadway to fantastic reviews. What changed? Not much. The awesome music from the movie is still featured and the weird story is the same, but the musical has some hilarious additional characters and the source material is lovingly parodied. And don't worry, there will still be roller skating. We can't wait to bring this huge show to our small stage and have you singing "Xanadu" on your way out! hesston.edu/theatre.

KANSAS MENNONITE RELIEF SALE (Sale on the Kansas State Fairgrounds April 10-11, 2026)

MCC Fellowship Meals: Help cover Relief Sale expenses by participating in a Fellowship Meal this year! You may choose to **Host** or **Be a Guest** in the traditional "*Fellowship in Dining*" way. As a **Guest**, you will be invited to attend the Host's Church Worship Service followed by a meal in their home. Another option is to **Host a Fellowship Meal** for your own congregation.

Dates: March 8 or March 15 (dates for congregational meals are flexible)

Guest Donation: \$25 per meal (proceeds go toward MCC Sale expenses)

Deadline: Sign up to be Host or Guest by February 25.

Registration forms are available on the table in the foyer.

Thank you for supporting the MCC Sale through fellowship and hospitality! We hope to cover Sale expenses before the Sale so all proceeds can be donated to MCC!

WANTED—Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's, Campers, Tractors, Modern Farm Equipment, etc. for the Kansas MCC Sale. Items you no longer need help Feed and Clothe Thousands in desperate living conditions. ALL donations are Tax Deductible. Call Jerry Toews for info: 620 367 8257. Help make a difference. Be a part of the growing number of folks donating vehicles to the Mennonite Relief Sale.

CAMP MENNOSCAH announcements

A Challenge to build a healthy reserve fund for Camp Mennoscah. The reason that Camp Mennoscah was able to immediately begin repairs on the retreat center was because we maintained a healthy reserve fund. But what would happen if a similar repair were needed today? If each of our donor households gave just \$20/month over the next 12 months, our reserve accounts would be replenished and ready to respond to the next emergency building repair. And our website allows you to easily set-up a monthly recurring investment to do just that. Visit CampMennoscah.org, or text "RECURRING" to our Development office at 620.755.2583 to begin the process.

Summer staff applications for the 2026 Summer Camps are open. The application and further information can be found here or at the link at the end of this announcement. Summer staff need to be 18 or older, preferably with one year of college, work or volunteering. Contact Olivia at 316-293-7313 or olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org with questions. <https://www.campmennoscah.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/Programs%7CSummer%20Youth%20Camps%3E%3ESummer%20Youth%20Camp%20Staff%20Application>

Online Registration for the Spring Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat on March 13-15 is open. Register online at <https://campmennoscah.campbrainregistration.com/> Activities and lodging will be at Main Camp. (The Retreat Center is moving along quickly, but is not quite finished.)

Online Registration for the 2026 Summer Youth Camps is open. The theme for the summer is "In the Wilderness." Through the new, strange and unknown of "wilderness," we will discover the sacred within each person and all creation and meet God there. Summer Youth Camps are for youth in grades 3-12 (Fall 2026). Register at <https://campmennoscah.campbrainregistration.com/>

Scholarships are available.

1. Due to a generous donor, first-time campers and returning campers bringing a first-time camper will automatically receive a \$100 scholarship until funds are depleted. Please factor this into your payment before paying full camp fees. If Camp Mennoscah has a record of a camper attending previously, staff will contact parents/guardians. Only one scholarship per camper.
2. Two full scholarships are available for campers needing assistance through a Scholarship Endowment. Campers who are racially and ethnically diverse and/or from non-Mennonite communities will be given priority; all are welcome to apply. Use the Scholarship Request Form at <https://campmennoscah.socs.net/vnews/display.v/ART/5e41970817def> and include supporting information in the "Amount you are asking in Scholarship" field. Contact office@campmennoscah.org with questions. Deadline is May 1, 2026.
3. Camp Mennoscah has limited scholarship funds available. Complete the Scholarship Request Form at <https://campmennoscah.socs.net/vnews/display.v/ART/5e41970817def> Contact us at office@campmennoscah.org with questions.

Note: FMC campers, FMC will cover half of your camp registration fee. Please register online, pay the fee and submit your printed receipt to the church office for reimbursement.

SYMPOSIUM on the FUTURE OF WATER in KANSAS . . . Hesston Mennonite & Dyck Arboretum
The Outreach Team of Hesston Mennonite Church invites your participation at a March 7, 2026 Spring Symposium on the Future of Water in Kansas. We are co-sponsoring this event to be held at Dyck Arboretum (177 W Hickory St), Hesston, Kansas, from 8:30 to 4:30 pm on Saturday, March 7. Brad Guhr, Education Coordinator, urges “Let’s educate ourselves and work together on solutions now, while water is plentiful, so we never have to face the fight (referring to Mark Twain’s quote that ‘Whisky’s for drinking and water’s for fighting.’) Look for registration details coming soon, or contact arboretum@hesston.edu.

MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK announcements

Mennonite Voluntary Service is accepting applications now for August 2026–July 2027. Adults 20+ are invited to serve for one year (renewable up to three) alongside nonprofits tackling poverty, immigration, education, health, and more. Live intentionally with other MVSers in a unit house, be supported by a local Mennonite church, and join a worldwide movement for peace and justice. Visit MennoniteMission.net/MVS

Service Adventure. Can a gap year change your life? Only if you’re up for adventure! Service Adventure applications are now open for the 2026-27 term. Service Adventure is a 10-month volunteer experience for young adults ages 17-20. Live in community with peers and unit leaders, serve with local nonprofit agencies, and grow in your faith with a supporting church congregation! Learn more and apply at MennoniteMission.net/ServiceAdventure.

ANABAPTIST MENNONITE BIBLICAL SEMINARY announcements

The Trail of Death: A Pilgrimage of Remembrance, Lament and Transformation: May 11–21. Participants in this pilgrimage will trace the route of the U.S. military’s 1838 forced removal of Potawatomi people from their ancestral homeland in northern Indiana to present-day Osawatomie, Kansas. This intensive graduate-level course of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary can be taken for credit, audit or no credit (trip only). Limit: 15 participants. Sign up by April 1. ambs.edu/trail-of-death

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE announcements

MCC Central States annual meeting – You are invited to the MCC Central States annual meeting on Saturday, March 7 at 11 a.m. at MCC Central States, 121 E. 30th St, North Newton, KS 67117.

The winter 2026 issue of Intersections on “Decolonizing Relief, Development and Peacebuilding” issue of *Intersections*, compiled by Sara Wyngaarden is now on the MCC website. See here: <https://mcc.org/media/document/149266>. Authors reflect on the opportunities for and challenges in living into decolonial ways of working in Bolivia, Canada, Haiti, India, Palestine and Israel, Uganda, and more.

Across the U.S.–Mexico borderlands — and in communities far beyond them — people of courage and compassion are responding daily to the realities of migration. MCC believes that listening to these stories helps us live more deeply into our values of peace, hospitality, and justice. Join us for **Borderlands & Beyond Monthly Charlas**, a new conversation series led by the MCC U.S. Immigration Network. Find out more and register for the Zoom link: mcc.org/events/borderlands-and-beyond-monthly-charlas-mcc.

Date: Every 3rd Thursday of the month (January to December 2026)

Time: 4:00 PM PT / 5:00 PM MT / 6:00 PM CT / 7:00 PM ET

MENNONITE CHURCH USA announcements

MC USA's 2026 Lent at Home Worship Guide invites households to journey through Lent with simple rituals, Scripture from John's Gospel and opportunities for reflection. This guide, titled "Dwelling in Dissonance," helps all ages hold grief and hope together, as we walk with Jesus toward resurrection. Available in English and Spanish. Download it here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/lent-at-home-2026>

MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK note of thanks

Thank you for supporting Mennonite Mission Network with your generous gift of \$2,974.92. Your generosity has enabled us to partner with 116 organizations and churches worldwide and have 74 workers and service program participants serving in 45 countries. We are thankful for your unwavering dedication to this shared mission of sharing God's love across the street and around the world. May God's light continue to shine through your church as a witness in your community and beyond. – Marisa Smucker, Executive Director

EVERENCE announcement

The Everence Sharing Fund provided \$3,000 in matching funds to support special needs in our church last year. Susan Combs serves as the Everence advocate for our congregation. Please contact her for more information.

NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL HEALTH (NAMI)

We're excited to share a new release we're really proud of:

Rural and Frontier Mental Health Access: A Qualitative Report

This report centers lived experience to shed light on what accessing mental health care actually looks like in rural and frontier communities. It brings forward voices, barriers, and realities that often get lost in statewide and national data—but matter deeply to people and communities.