

THIS WEEK @ FMC - March 25-31, 2026

Henri Nouwen, in Behold the Beauty of the Lord, asks a question still pressing today: ***“How can we live in the midst of a world marked by fear, hatred, and violence, and not be destroyed by it?”***

He offers the following in answer:

“When Jesus prays to his Father for his disciples he responds to this question by saying:
‘I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world.’
(John 17:15-16)

To live in the world without belonging to the world summarizes the essence of the spiritual life. The spiritual life keeps us aware that our true house is not the house of fear, in which the powers of hatred and violence rule, but the house of love, where God resides. Hardly a day passes in our lives without our experience of inner or outer fears, anxieties, apprehensions, and preoccupations. These dark powers have pervaded every part of our world to such a degree that we can never fully escape them. Still it is possible not to belong to these powers, not to build our dwelling place among them, but to choose the house of love as our home. This choice is made not just once and for all but by living a spiritual life, praying at all times and thus breathing God’s breath. Through the spiritual life we gradually move from the house of fear to the house of love.”

May this be the goal of our spiritual formation and spiritual life – to gradually move from the house of fear to the house of love. Let us be honest about all the fears, anxieties, and apprehensions ... but not build our dwelling place among them, instead choosing the house of love as our home.

-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, MARCH 29, 2026 – PALM SUNDAY & PASSION SUNDAY: TRIUMPH & DEATH

God of honor and celebration, Together we cry, “Hosanna!” to your son, who rode willingly and bravely into Jerusalem. Hear us as we celebrate your anointed one, Jesus Christ. Help us hold the dissonance of your triumph and your impending death. Amen.

John 9:16b-22; John 12:12-27; Psalm 24

Preacher: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Worship Leader: Joel Iwashige

Pianist: Peggy Stucky

Song Leader: Bryan Kehr

Children’s Time: Shane & Joy Miller

Scripture Reader: TBA

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

Ushers: Dennis & Jennalee Boggs

Nursery Attendant: Adam & Maggie Pounds

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) 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

March 25 – FMC hosts the final Lenten Lunch

March 27 – Don Wiens Memorial Service @ 10:30am (followed by lunch)

March 28 – FMC serves at the Soup Kitchen

March 29 – M&Ms meet noon-1:30pm

April 1, 2 and 3 – Stations of the Cross @ FMC (Noon-7pm each day)

April 2 – 6:00pm Maundy Thursday meal & worship with communion

April 5 – 7:30am (arrive 7:20) – Sunrise Service @ Shane and Joy Miller's home (details below!)

9:00am Easter prayers & breakfast potluck (see below for details)

10:15am Easter Sunday worship (no Sunday School) – Easter Egg Hunt for children after worship!

April 10-11 – Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale, Kansas State Fairgrounds, Hutchinson

April 12 (Sunday) – Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus, 4:30pm at Memorial Hall, Bethel College

April 18 (Saturday) – Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus, 4:30pm at Richert Auditorium, Tabor College

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 April 14 at 1:00pm

Wednesday March 25 at 6:30pm (as part of WNAF)

MARCH 29 INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 11am in Fellowship Hall

Come join the intergenerational Sunday School group, where Shane & Joy will be leading us in groups as we solve puzzles, learn together, and participate in fun challenges related to the triumphal entry of Jesus.

SUNDAY SCHOOL for all ages resumes regular schedule on April 12.

Children (age 2-5th grade) and Junior Youth (6th-8th) use Shine Curriculum from MennoMedia. This spring's theme is: ***Your Kingdom Come***, helps children experience the Bible story using a five-part sequence: Prepare, Connect, Encounter, Explore, and Bless.

Senior Youth (9th-12th grade) meet 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 spring with the theme, *"Sin, Salvation, and New Life,"* by Leonard Beechy. The study will include scripture texts from Lamentations, John, the Psalms and Acts. 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, HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2026 – *Dwelling in Dissonance*

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

- **March 29 – Palm & Passion Sunday** (John 12:12-27 and John 19:16b-22) – Tonya preaching
- **HOLY WEEK:**
 - **Stations of the Cross – Wednesday-Friday from Noon-7pm each day.** Volunteers needed to be present in the building during these hours – talk to Tonya if you can help.
 - **April 2 – Maundy Thursday: Jesus' Last Words** – 6:00pm Meal & Worship (John 19:23-30)
- **EASTER SUNDAY: April 5** (John 20:1-18) – Tonya preaching
 - **Sunrise Service** @ Shane and Joy Miller's
 - **9:00am – Easter Prayers & Brunch** at church (bring food to share & own table service)
 - **10:15am – Easter Worship**
 - **No Sunday School, but there are plans for an Easter Egg Hunt for children!**

EASTER LILIES for our EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Celebrating life . . . a memorial remembrance or honoring a treasured relationship.

Order Easter lilies to decorate the church on Easter morning and then take them home to remind you of the gift of life. Forms on the table in the foyer due March 29 with payment. \$10 for each lily plant in a 6" pot.

PRAYGROUND EXPERIMENT CONTINUES THROUGH PALM SUNDAY!

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 playground after Children's time and can stay until the end of the service. Parents, if your children are at the playground please sit in the front in case your kids might need you.

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
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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 **TBD** (NO regular office hours that day)

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...

RENO COUNTY FOOD BANK

March: Canned veggies April: pasta

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.

UPDATE: FMC becoming Pioneering Members of the Central Kansas Justice Ministry

An Inter-faith ministry in Central Kansas continues to form, with the goal of partnering together to address serious community problems and to provide FMC the change to answer God's call to do justice, alongside our important mercy ministries already in place. ***At the last CMT (Congregational Ministry Team) meeting, based on robust participation and positive feedback from FMC in last fall's Rethinking Justice Bible Study/Workshop, feedback from those who are part of our Coordination Teams at the January CMT/CT gathering, the CMT approved the decision for FMC to become a pioneering member of this emerging***

ministry. We are committed to fully participating in the first cycle of multi-year action in this ministry, and will evaluate our experience at the end of it.

This decision blesses Pastor Tonya to continue to participate on the Executive Committee of this emerging ministry, and to continue to take steps, supported by Jeanne Koontz (community organizer for this emerging ministry) to form a Justice Ministry Network at FMC (led by 4-6 people). It also means we commit to broad representation from our congregation in three annual processes:

1. **LISTENING:** House meetings to ask: “what problems keep you up at night?” Common themes emerge, and the membership votes on which issues to address),
2. **RESEARCH TO ACTION:** We meet with local stakeholders to understand the depth of the problem, and national experts to learn how similar issues have been addressed elsewhere. After months of research, we craft proposals and bring large groups of organized people together to influence local decision makers and implement solutions that address poverty and injustice.
3. **INVESTMENT DRIVE:** Our financial structure is built on congregational dues (1% of budget), gifts from individuals active in the ministry, and support from local businesses. The goal is to raise a growing internal source of funding through relatively small investments from many people – building self-ownership and maintaining independence.

Stay tuned for more details and opportunities, and if you have concerns or questions about this decision, please visit with Pastor Tonya or Delon Martens, CMT Chair. **AND, mark your calendars for SATURDAY morning APRIL 25 for another opportunity to attend a Rethinking Justice Workshop/Bible Study held at Emanuel Lutheran in Hutchinson.**

MOVING TOWARD RIGHT RELATIONS: TRANSFORMING PERSONAL ACCOUNTABILITY TRAINING

Join us for a transforming personal accountability training as we seek together to move toward right relations with our Indigenous brothers and sisters. Sponsored by the Kansas Repair Communities, MCC-Central States, and Western District Conference and led by staff from the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery. **Friday, April 24, from 5:30-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** All sessions in the Fellowship Hall of the Bethel College Mennonite Church, North Newton, Kansas. Meals provided Friday evening and Saturday noon. There is no registration fee, but registration is required (deadline April 17). [Register HERE!](#) Questions? Please contact Ada Schmidt-Tieszen (adast@bethelks.edu) or 316-842-9751.

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.

INTERFAITH HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES celebration of 35 years

Luncheon will honor the incredible journey, the lives transformed, and the partnerships that have made it all possible.

- March 25, 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Interfaith Housing Warehouse, 1326 E. Ave A., Hutchinson, Kansas

Casual attire. We look forward to celebrating this special milestone with you.

BETHEL COLLEGE announcements

Fri., March 27 – The annual Student Art Exhibit opens in the Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center, featuring the work of students in Bethel College art classes, in various media, through April 17 (reception TBA). Gallery hours are Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 2-4 p.m.

Sun., March 29 – Bethel College Concert Choir and Wind Ensemble spring concert, 4 p.m., *Memorial Hall*

Mon., April 6, Bethel College will honor its 2025 alumni award winners (Virgil Penner, Kristin Wedel, Tim Wiens) in convocation.

HESSTON COLLEGE announcements

Dr. Angela Lederach . . . Melva Kauffman lecturer March 25 & March 26 – both @ 7:00pm

“Slow Peace: Lessons from Grassroots Peacebuilders in Colombia” is the title of this lecture series to be held in the Hesston Mennonite Church sanctuary. Check the poster in the foyer with QR code for more information.

McPHERSON COMMUNITY BRASS concerts

Stephanie and Trae Gehring, who perform with this group, invite us to attend their concerts as follows:

- Friday, April 17 @ 7:00pm – Tabor College, Hillsboro
- Monday, April 20 @ 7:00pm – The Cedars Event Center, McPherson
- Sunday, May 3 @ 3:00pm – McPherson First United Methodist Church

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

- **My Coins Count!** Every Sunday during our worship service we collect pocket change (and paper money too!) to support MCC's work in providing educational resources for children around the world.
- **Run for Relief.** Jean Gaeddert will again be participating in this year's Run For Relief. Your sponsorship would be most welcome. Please give cash or checks (**made out to KMRS . . . memo *Run for Relief***) to Jean before April 10. Thank you! **And if others would like to run . . .** check the KMRS website or access information with the QR code posted in the foyer. Registration deadline to receive a T-shirt is March 27!
- **Calling all pie and zwiebach bakers!** FMC's assignment for food donations for the meals at the sale are as follows: 20 pies, 3 mini-pies and 30 dozen zwieback. Bags for zwieback and pans for the pies are on the table in the foyer. Also, be sure to note instructions for pie baking and labeling.
- **In addition, baked goods are needed to sell in Meadowlark.** Suggested items are angel food cakes, cinnamon rolls, peppernuts, breads of all kinds, pies and poppy seed rolls.
- **Many volunteers are needed at the sale.** Check the KMRS website (kansas.mccsale.org) for information and click the link [Volunteer/Signup](#) to take your place at one of the many venues!
- **Sale bills for the General Auction and Silent Auction** can be viewed on the website.
- **Children's Auction** is still accepting donations of toys, dolls, board games, LEGO sets, art kits, and sports equipment. Drop off before 9:30 on Saturday in Pride of Kansas Building.
- **Urgent volunteer leadership opportunities – contact Jim Robb** if you can help (620-747-0186 or jimrobb2021@gmail.com).
 - New Year Cookie Frying Committee members
 - Enthusiastic Ringman for Quilt Auction
 - Friday Verenike Frying

CAMP MENNOSCAH announcements

Camp Mennoscah wants your stories about the role we have played in your faith! As we continue to race toward the finish line of the retreat center - and likely other projects to follow - personal stories are so meaningful to those who support camp and we would love to publicize your connection to this incredible

place. If you are willing to let us publish the ways that Camp Mennoscah has touched your life, please send an email to our Communications office at Eric.litwiller@campmennoscah.org. Include how you were first introduced to Camp Mennoscah, your favorite aspect of camp and why it is your favorite, and how you feel your life is different today than it otherwise might have been were it not for your exposure to this organization, along with anything else you'd like to share. Also please include a good contact method so we can follow up with you to add to the narrative if we need more information. Thank you!

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/>
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.

Camp Mennoscah wants to remind all our partner churches that the matching initiative to support work on the retreat center is still in effect. If you would like to join with others at FMC to raise funds to be matched by a generous donor, please let the church office know. Or initiate this challenge with camp by texting "Match" to 620.755.2583.

MENNONITE WOMEN IN MISSION SALAD SUPPER . . April 20, 6:00pm @ Tabor Church

Women & Girls! Come join us for our annual Mennonite Women in Mission's potluck salad supper on Monday, April 20, 6 pm at the Tabor Mennonite Church, rural Newton. Our guest speaker will be Kate Mast speaking on "Our Time, Our Stories, Our Stuff." Kate's presentation encourages us to think kindly about our stuff in relationship to our time and the stories we tell about our lives. Please bring a potluck salad and one small item that is a treasure of yours to share with your table group. RSVP is not required. More information is on our website at mennonitewomeninmission.org or on our Facebook page.

MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK announcements

Just Peace Pilgrimages — Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples Pilgrimage

You and your community are invited to engage with contemporary Indigenous realities, explore the histories of Indigenous Peoples, and examine the complexities of Indigenous-settler relations. What might it mean for your community to stand in solidarity with Indigenous Peoples and actively contribute to the work of truth telling and repair? **Dates: September 22-26. Registration deadline: July 15**

Contact Stephanie Weaver at StephanieW@MennoniteMission.net or visit MennoniteMission.net/JustPeace to learn more!

Just Peace Pilgrimages — South Africa Racial Justice Pilgrimage

Hosted by [Iziko Lamaqabane](http://IzikoLamaqabane) — This South African solidarity learning pilgrimage will explore the long history and legacy of settler colonialism and apartheid, which was an unjust socio-political policy that fostered racial segregation. The pilgrimage will focus on the social constructs created around race, land dispossession and how they so thoroughly defined, and continue to define, South African society. Join Mission Network's director for Africa and Europe Sibonokuhle Ncube and former executive director Stanley Green on this pilgrimage! **Dates: September 9-22; the optional safari extends the trip by 3 days.**

Registration deadline: July 15. Contact Stephanie Weaver at StephanieW@MennoniteMission.net or visit MennoniteMission.net/JustPeace to learn more!

Service Adventure. Are you sensing God's call to mentor and guide young adults as they grow in faith, service and community? Want to live in beautiful places like Anchorage, Alaska or Colorado Springs,

Colorado? Answer the call and become a **Service Adventure unit leader!** Unit leaders mentor the young adults in the unit and provide some oversight and guidance for the household.

Ages 24+ should contact Michael Oyer at MichaelO@MennoniteMission.net!

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

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE announcements

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

Mennonite Church USA hosted a special, smaller-scale **Hope for the Future 2026** gathering in San Antonio, Texas, which brought together BIPOC leaders for deep discernment, spiritual renewal and strategic visioning. Read about their call for greater interdependence and collective liberation, as well as where they are finding hope in challenging times, here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/hope-for-the-future-2026/>

Webinar recording available: In “**Engaging Our Grief and Finding Resilience**,” hosts Ann Blackwood and Ruth Johnston explore how grief shows up in our lives and in the world, providing tools and practices to move through it with honesty, care and spiritual resilience. This webinar was sponsored by The Corinthian Plan, MC USA’s health care and wellbeing plan for pastors and church workers. Watch the recording here: <https://bit.ly/4aQ9to8>

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE (MDS) . . On the Level newsletter

Our March edition of On the Level is now available. In this edition, Executive Director Kevin King reflects on 22 years of service with MDS, learn how you can get involved with the MDS family program and you can relive the experience of our Annual Celebration online.

Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/4lvbFW5>