

THIS WEEK @ FMC - April 22-28, 2026

Years ago, during a January college interterm in 1992, I had the privilege of visiting the Holy Land (Israel and Palestine). While we looked at plenty of piles of rocks and ancient sites, the real purpose of the trip was to hear and learn from the 'living stones': the stories and experiences, cries of pain and joy, of the people ... Christian, Jewish, Muslim ... living now in that land. I was moved then, and still am, by the reality of pain and trauma and the courageous work of ordinary people working across divisions to hold fast to their hope for justice and peace to bring healing to them all. The past few years have brought a depth to the violence, pain and grief in that land I could not have imagined then (even though I remember wondering how it could get any worse!), as we witness a genocide in Gaza.

On that trip I was introduced to the practice of liberation theology through an ecumenical grassroots movement named Sabeel, founded in Jerusalem in 1988 by a collective of Palestinian Christians. Over the years I've followed the witness and work of this organization. Several of the books on my bookshelf are written by some of their founders. Sabeel has a weekly ['prayer wave'](#) email I subscribe to, and last week's resonated deeply with me. It begins with a short explanation and then follows with a prayer.

"April 13th marked Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, a time when people around the world honor the sacred memory of the six million Jews, along with millions of Roma and Sinti, people of Slavic and Polish descent, persons with disabilities, Soviet prisoners of war, Jehovah's Witnesses, those persecuted for their sexual orientation, and countless other innocent victims who were brutally murdered by the Nazi regime and its allies.

God of compassion and justice, we lift up the families of all Holocaust survivors and remember that genocide is a structural sin that violates the sanctity of life that you have bestowed on us. We ask for hearts around the world to be awakened to ensure the end of all genocides and dehumanizing ideologies that lead to genocide. May we stand together against the evils of antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism, and the dehumanization of Palestinians or any people. Help us build a world rooted in dignity, compassion, and peace for all.

Lord in your mercy...hear our prayer."

-Pastor Tonya

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP is 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, APRIL 26, 2026 – PAUL AND SILAS

Acts 16:16-34

God of freedom, Paul and Silas worshiped you, even when they were flogged and imprisoned. Transform our hearts so that we may also rejoice in you at all times and in all situations. Amen.

Preacher: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Worship Leader: Stephanie Gehring

Organist: Pauline Buller

Song Leader: Jon Miller
Children's Time: Lona Willems
Scripture Reader: Randy Rempel
Prayers of the People: send prayer concerns to Pastor Tonya @ 620-513-2828
Ushers: Russ & Jean Gaeddert
Nursery Attendant: Jonathan & Joanna Wenger
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

April 21 – CMT (Congregational Ministry Team) meets, 5:30pm
April 26 – M&M's meet @ Noon
May 3 – Earth Day & Camp Mennoscah Sunday + fundraiser lunch at noon for FMC's annual weekend @ Camp on June 20-21
May 22-29 – Pastor Tonya gone on vacation
May 23 – FMC serves at the Soup Kitchen
May 24 – Pentecost

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 May 12 at 1:00pm
 Wednesday May 13 at 6:30pm

SUNDAY SCHOOL for all ages.

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.

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

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

STRENGTHENING Community Connections...

CHURCH OFFICE REGULAR HOURS

- Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm
- Wednesday 12 noon – 3:00pm

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

Tonya's next monthly 'day apart' is tentatively Wed May 13. (NO regular office hours that day)
Tonya will be attending (with Jonathan) a Western District Conference Pastor-Spouse Retreat on May 1-2.

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

April: pasta; May: pancake mix & syrup

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.

CENTRAL KANSAS JUSTICE MINISTRY – RETHINKING JUSTICE WORKSHOP Opportunity!

Rethinking Justice Scripture Study . . . Saturday April 25 from 9:00-11:30am. Emanuel Lutheran 140 East 30th Avenue in Hutchinson is hosting this free workshop. You are all invited to attend to learn more about what this Justice Ministry (that FMC has joined as a pioneering member) is all about. Registration is required: www.tinyurl.com/JustKansas

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).

SECONDS ON 2nd . . . volunteers needed

It's getting to be crunch time as we anticipate moving to new space and volunteers are needed to help with various projects at Seconds on 2nd. If you have a block of time to help, give Sharissa a call at 620-474-2789. Thanks for giving this your attention.

Et CETERA SHOP seeks new General Manager

For more information contact Delon Martens at delon@etchutch.org or 620-960-9471.

BETHEL COLLEGE announcements

Thurs., April 23 – Bethel College Wind Ensemble concert, Chris Miertschin, director, 7 p.m., *Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center*

Sun., April 26 – Woven and Open Road joint concert, 4 p.m., *Bethel College Mennonite Church*

Weds., April 29 – Jazz on the Green at Bethel College, 7 p.m. (*rain venue: Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center*)

Thurs., April 30 – Bethel College Voice Studio recital, Dr. Holly Swartzendruber, instructor, 7 p.m., *Administration Building chapel*

Sun., May 3 — Masterworks concert: Haydn's *The Creation*, Memorial Hall, 4 p.m.

Kauffman Museum will present a program on “The Dockum Drugstore Sit-in” on Sunday, April 26, at 3:00pm. The presenter, Dr. Prisca Barnes-Simmons of Wichita, is a passionate advocate for equity and social justice. In 2009, she founded Storytime Village Inc., a nonprofit organization with a mission to serve low-income Kansas children and families, with a focus on reading and literacy. She has published three children's books, including *People, Pride and Promise: The Story of the Dockum Sit-in*. The action, which took place in Wichita in 1958, was America's first student-led lunch counter sit-in.

McPHERSON COMMUNITY BRASS concerts

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

- Sunday, May 3 @ 3:00pm – McPherson First United Methodist Church

ANABAPTIST MENNONITE BIBLICAL SEMINARY announcements

Take a summer course at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary! Hybrid courses (combining online work and one week on campus) include Biblical Storytelling and History of Christian Spirituality. **One in-person course** is available: Spiritual Practices: Trees of Life (May 29–30). Nonadmitted students get 50% off their first two courses for credit! Sign up by May 4. ambs.edu/upcoming-courses

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, 9458 SE 40th St, Murdock, KS, 67111, is seeking a bookkeeper/reservation specialist. Experience with accounting/bookkeeping and general office duties is preferred. Must have good phone, people and email skills, along with strong organization. This position has potential to be a part- or full-time position. Candidate will also need to be able to pass a background check and have transportation to camp property. Some remote work may also be available. If interested, please send inquiries and resume to Olivia Bartel, olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org.

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 Lamagabane](#) — 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!

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE announcements

MCC is recruiting Canner Operators to join its mobile meat canning team, which prepares about **600,000 cans of meat** annually for global communities in need. These operators travel to **30 U.S. locations** from October to April, managing machinery, operating steam and pressure vessels, coordinating volunteers, and ensuring compliance with USDA regulations. Make new friends while participating in **a unique service adventure!** Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until April 25th OR until position is filled. For the full job description and to apply: [Canner Operator](#) or contact MCC at 1-888-563-4676.

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

In “Making peace in your town,” Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, Mennonite Church USA’s denominational minister of Peace & Justice, shares how **two congregations model Anabaptist peacemaking** through disaster response, immigrant solidarity and hands-on community ministry rooted in Jesus’ call to justice-centered peace. This article first appeared in the spring 2026 issue of MennoMedia’s Leader magazine. Read it here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/making-peace-in-your-town/>

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE (MDS) announcements

Mennonite Disaster Service is happy to offer the MDS Family Program this summer in Central Kansas! For the Family Program, we love serving with grandparents, parents, children, church family, etc! This is a project for anyone of any age and skill!

Location: The MDS Family Project will take place in **Hesston, Kansas**, this summer. Central Kansas offers meaningful access to service opportunities through Anabaptist organizations that serve those in need locally, nationally, and around the world.

Work: In the MDS cabinet shop, participants will build cabinets for installation in new homes for disaster survivors. Volunteers may be able to assist in building toolboxes with leftover wood. Volunteers will assemble MCC kits that will be distributed globally to support communities facing hardship. In addition, volunteers will assist Hesston College with campus preparations, helping ensure everything is ready to welcome students in August. The work is adjusted to the skill level of the volunteers.

The weeks available to serve in Central Kansas are: June 14-20, June 21-27, June 28-July 4. Come join us for a hands-on way for families to serve together while making a tangible impact! Reach out if you have any interest or availability! You can learn more about the Family Program **HERE** on the MDS website.

Our April edition of On the Level is now available.

Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/41yFw6H>