

THIS WEEK @ FMC - July 8-21, 2026

The celebration of our country's 250th birthday is an invitation to honest assessment of the praise-worthy and the repentance-worthy moments of our story, and to envision a future filled with God's beauty and harmony not just for our nation, but for this whole world God created and loves. I was moved by the prayer below as it acknowledges the weariness of this moment for some, seeks freedom that opens toward love, and calls on God to strengthen us for our faithful living of these days. --**Pastor Tonya**

PRAYER

*Written by Rev. Benjamin Cremer and included in the July 5, 2026 edition of his newsletter "Into the Gray."
You can read more and subscribe here: <https://benjamin-cremer.ck.page/profile>.*

Lord Jesus,

In a world filled with noise, competing loyalties, and endless demands, we hear your invitation once again:

"Come to me."

Many of us are weary.

We carry burdens for our families, our communities, our churches, and our nation.

We carry grief over divisions that seem impossible to heal.

We carry concern for those who are suffering, excluded, or forgotten.

We carry the weight of uncertainty about the future.

Teach us to take your yoke upon us.

Free us from the burdens that do not come from you.

Free us from fear.

Free us from cynicism.

Free us from the temptation to seek power more than faithfulness.

Give us hearts that are gentle and humble like yours.

Help us to love our country honestly.

To celebrate what is good.

To confront what is harmful.

To seek justice for all people.

To honor the dignity of every human being.

To welcome the stranger.

To care for creation.

To stand with the poor and the oppressed.

May your love shape who we are more than any ideology.

May your compassion guide our convictions.

May your mercy soften our hearts.

And may your rest strengthen us to continue the work of love, justice, peace, and reconciliation in the world
you so deeply love.

In the name of Christ, who is gentle and humble in heart,

Amen.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP is typically 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, JULY 12 – PURPOSE “Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” *James 2:2-5; Luke 17:20-21*

Preacher: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Worship Leader: Jim Unruh

Organist: Pauline Buller

Song Leader: Jonathan Wenger

Children’s Time: Stephanie Gehring

Scripture Reader: TBD

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

Ushers: Cheryl Warkentin & Russell Goering

Nursery Attendant: Maggie Pounds

Sound Tech: Adam Pounds

Livestream Tech: Joel Iwashige

SUNDAY, JULY 19 – BECOMING GOD’S PEOPLE, with WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE (WDC) *Mark 10:13-16*

Preacher & Children’s Time: Grace Parker Sutter (director of Kids Meet Christ)

Worship Leader: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Pianist: Peggy Stucky

Song Leader: TBD

Scripture Reader: Anita Kehr

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

Mission Moment about WDC: Sarah Balzer

Ushers: Glenda & Rick Hooper

Nursery Attendant: Donna Davis

Sound Tech: Ryker Wiens

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. 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

July 13 – Craft Night 6:30-8:00pm in Fellowship Hall

July 13-17 – Pastor Tonya gone on retreat for clergy women in Indianapolis
July 15 – Summer Book Study Group (2nd of 3 sessions) – snacks @ 12:30pm, conversation @ 1:00pm
July 19 – Guests from Western District Conference with us in worship;
3rd Sunday potluck - bring a dish to share and your own table service
August 7-9 – Western District Annual Assembly in Dallas (see below for information)

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 taking a summer break. We 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.

Upcoming gatherings: Wed July 8 @ 6:30pm
Tuesday group will NOT meet in July

SUMMER 2026 SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will be offered for everyone two Sundays a month during the summer. Summer Sunday school dates are: July 12 and 26; August 9 and 23.

Adults: Sermon Reflections meeting in the basement classroom near the pool table

JULY 12 SUNDAY SCHOOL WITH MAGGIE POUNDS – SEE & PRAY

Prayer isn't just words. Sometimes it's a picture of what we're hoping for, longing for, or trusting God with. We'll be making vision boards ... collections of images, words and colors that reflect what's on our hearts. Think of it as visual prayer. You don't have to know exactly what you are making when you start. Just let what draws you, draw you. *While this is specifically for Pre-K-8th grade, interested adults are also welcome to participate!!*

ALL MY DAYS – SUMMER 2026 WORSHIP SERIES ON PRAYER

Prayer can be an abstract idea for some of us. When, where, what, and how do we pray? And why would we do it? Cultures and religions throughout time and space have turned to tangible objects to help them answer these questions. In this worship series, we will explore the ancient and cross-traditional use of prayer beads as a way to connect with the Holy and with each other for "all our days." (Marcia McFee – Worship Design Studio). We handed out prayer beads on June 14, and more will be available each Sunday during the series. Pastor Tonya is also happy to bring some or send some to you if you aren't able to be here in person.

July 12 – **Purpose** *"Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."*

July 26 – **Petition** *"Give us this day our daily bread."*

August 2 – **Pardon** *"Forgive us our sins/trespases as we forgive those who sin/trespass against us."*

August 9 – **Protection** *"Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."*

August 16 – **Persistence** *"For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN"*

JULY 19 WORSHIP – BECOMING GOD’S PEOPLE with WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE (WDC)

On July 19 we’re excited to welcome two folks from Western District Conference with us in worship: Sarah Balzer and Grace Parker Sutter. WDC is the area conference that our congregation is a member of, with offices in North Newton. Sarah will bring a short mission moment about WDC, and Grace will bring the sermon and children’s time. Grace is the director of Kids Meet Christ (KMC), a Lily Funded WDC initiative. As conference minister Kathy Neufeld Dunn described it (in part) in an article last fall: *“KMC invites us all to take a fresh look at which aspects of worship are life-giving as they are and which the Holy Spirit might be calling us to [change in] our worship patterns. Which parts of worship are life-giving? Which could use some fresh winds of the Spirit? Bear in mind, too, that what helps children focus, may help our older folks, too.”* Grace’s presence with us on July 19 will help us learn more about this opportunity and ministry, and hopefully the whole morning will strengthen our awareness of and connection to our area conference and all it has to offer to support and encourage us as a congregation.

KID’S MEET CHRIST EVENT ON SEPTEMBER 12 – HOSTED BY FIRST MENNONITE HUTCH!!

We are excited to be the hosts of the next “Kids Meet Christ” event titled ***“Art, Improv and Lego are Worship, Too!”*** on ***Saturday September 12*** from ***9:30am-2:30pm***. Kids Meet Christ (a Western District Conference initiative) invites you to a fun community event for EVERYONE – parents, children, grandparents, leaders, and anyone who wants to see what is possible when all ages are fully engaged in worship. Talashia Keim Yoder, pastor at College Mennonite Church in Goshen IN and faith formation extraordinaire, will guide us in exploring worship that works for everyone. *Breakfast and lunch included. Morning program is for all ages. The afternoon session will be separate adult and children’s workshops.* Register at: [Art, Improv, and Lego are Worship, Too!](#)

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

- *UPPER ROOM* – July, August
- *Rejoice!* – June, July, August

STRENGTHENING Community Connections...

CHURCH OFFICE REGULAR HOURS

- Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm
- Wednesday 12 noon – 3:00pm (no Wednesday hours on July 15)

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)

Upcoming Monthly Day Apart (for prayer, quiet, renewal) – TBA

Upcoming Retreat (for Clergy Women): July 13-17

Upcoming Vacation Schedule: August 1-4

THIRD SUNDAY SUMMER POTLUCKS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

This summer we are planning 3rd Sunday summer potlucks after worship at the church in July and August. In June, the third Sunday was at Camp Mennoscah. **Mark your calendars for July 19 and August 16 and plan to bring food to share and your own table service.**

FIRST MENNONITE SUMMER BOOK STUDY – session 2 of 3 on July 15

The book study group invites you to join us for our summer read, **Theo of Golden**, a novel by Allen Levi. The group will meet for a light finger-food lunch at 12:30pm and conversation at 1:00pm. Our reading will focus as follows: July 15 chapters 23-42, and August 19 chapters 43-epilogue. It's not too late to join us!! Even if you are unable to join the group conversation, this is a book you'll want to read. Buy one, borrow one, check one out – but don't let this year pass without reading it!

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

July: Hamburger & Tuna Helper

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.

THE ISSUES BELOW AFFECT ALL OF US . . . EVEN WHEN THEY SEEM FAR AWAY

Your vote on August 4 has impact.

The proposed amendment to the Kansas constitution on the August 4, primary ballot, will give Kansans the opportunity to decide how the Kansas Supreme Court Justices will be selected going forward. This ballot is available for all voters regardless of party affiliation. Currently, justices are carefully vetted by the selection commission and our Governor makes the appointment to fill any vacancy. By law, our justices represent each of Kansas' four congressional districts, ensuring voices are heard from all corners of the state. Justices are accountable to the voters through retention elections, in that after serving for one year, a justice can be affirmed or voted out by a direct vote of the people of Kansas. Through this process – in effect since 1958 – the Kansas Supreme Court has proven to be fair, impartial, and beholden to the Kansas Constitution. This method has kept politics and the "big money" campaign dollars out of the selection process.

In contrast, the proposed amendment to the Kansas Constitution would return the selection process directly to a popular vote of registered voters. While that may sound like a good idea, this is what would happen. Justices would be forced to campaign for their positions. This will turn impartial justices into politicians. It would open the door for campaign funding that will inevitably influence justices to make judicial decisions that favor the big donors/corporations.

To preserve a fair, transparent and trusted justice system for all in the state of Kansas, VOTE NO on August 4. As Christians, our calling is to advocate for a society where everyone has what they need to survive and thrive and where human needs are human rights. As citizens of our state, we take action to seek justice for all.

1999 Landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling called into question . . . from Anabaptist Disabilities Network

In this decision, *Olmstead v. L.C.*, the U.S. Supreme Court established that the unjustified segregation and institutionalization of people with disabilities and mental illness is a form of discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Since then, millions of people have benefited from its provisions, allowing them to live with or near family, friends, schools, and community, including their congregations. In a troubling turn of events, the U.S. Department of Justice released an opinion on June 18, 2026, questioning the constitutionality and mandates of the 1999 Supreme Court Olmstead decision. Anabaptist Disabilities Network (ADN) is deeply troubled by this recently released opinion. Anabaptists have been at the forefront of the reform of housing and support for people with disabilities and people who experience mental illness. We have advocated for everyone to live their best possible life and don't want to go back to a time when people with disabilities and mental illness were forced to live in institutions, isolated and separated from those who love them. It should be noted that home and community-based services are generally far less expensive than institutional care. We are concerned that the opinion could undermine the policies and funding that have improved the lives of so many people. This is a call to action. ADN offers information and encourages us to put our faith into action in the following ways: (click here) <https://www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org/adn-statement-on-community/>

FIRST CALL FOR HELP supports students in Reno County with school supplies

Nearly 2,000 students across Reno County need assistance to start the school year with essential supplies. A contribution of \$77 covers the cost of a backpack filled with all required school supplies for one student. Through purchasing partnerships, the value of contributions is matched. To participate, contributions must be received by July 31. Mail to: First Call for Help, PO Box 2203, Hutchinson KS 67504-2203.

UPDATE – CENTRAL KANSAS INTERFAITH JUSTICE ORGANIZATION

The formation of the new justice ministry in Central Kansas is moving right along! I'm excited to share we have 4 from FMC who have agreed to head up our church's Justice Ministry Team – Peggy Stucky, Jane Wagler, Carol Moore and Susan Combs. You'll be hearing more from them in the coming months as we will begin the listening phase of the process in the fall. This is the process through which we'll hear stories, concerns and hopes to help us discern the issues that matter most to our communities and guide the future direction of our ministry together. Right now, nineteen congregations in Central Kansas have either recruited or are actively recruiting team leaders, and 82 team leaders have already committed to this work. Thirty laity and clergy from our region are attending a DART training in Florida in July, including our very own Peggy Stucky! It's an exciting time to be part of this new initiative seeking God's justice and abundance in our communities.

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).

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH . . . SUMMER QUIET DAY – Saturday, July 11, 9:00am-12:30pm

CREATING SPACE FOR GOD – brunch, worship, a reflection, personal quiet time. We live in a world that tries to keep us anxious and occupied, a world filled with many voices trying to tell us who we are and what we are for. At the same time, the voice of God is always speaking to us, always telling us who we are... beloved, treasured, worthy of love and belonging. Unfortunately, God's voice gets drowned out. Henri Nouwen says that a spiritual discipline is the human effort to create some space in our lives so that we can learn to hear the voice of God. Quiet Days at Grace are opportunities to create some of that space.

SOIL & SOUL: A GATHERING FOR FARMERS & RANCHERS & THE AG COMMUNITY

Buhler Mennonite Church & Hoffnungsau Mennonite Church invite local farmers and ag professionals to a Gathering for Farmers, Ranchers and the Ag Community on **Friday, July 31st at Hilton Garden Inn, Hutchinson, KS**. At 8:30am is coffee and donuts and 9:00am-1:00pm is the Program and Lunch. **Soil & Soul** brings together the people who support agriculture every day to strengthen relationships, share resources, and build support systems that help producers thrive. *As the first in a two-part series, this gathering is designed for agriculture's "front-line" professionals – bankers, lenders, implement dealers, agronomists, veterinarians, insurance and Co-op employees, healthcare providers, congregation members, and others who work closely with producers.* Through shared conversation, learning, connection, and a meal, we hope to build understanding around stress and well-being while strengthening a more supportive ag community. A larger, producer-focused event will follow on November 14, 2026. We hope you join us in July! Register [HERE!](#) For more information contact bmcpastor@gmail.com or 620-899-8918

BETHEL COLLEGE announcements

Fri., July 17 – The Bethel College alumni office invites alumni and friends to a cookout (hamburgers, hot dogs, sides, fixings, beverages and homemade ice cream; vegetarian and gluten-free options available), **6-8 p.m.**, around the Friesen fountain on the campus Green. There will also be live music by Jesse Graber, Ben Regier and Erin Mae. **This free event is a welcome to campus for Interim President Wynn Goering, with remarks from him and others at 7 p.m.** There will be a few tables and chairs on-site, but you're welcome to bring your own lawn chairs and blankets, along with yard games to share (a few will be available).

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE announcements

MCC Grandparent Days, July 13 & 14, 9:30-11:30 a.m. each day! Mark your calendars and gather your grandchild(ren) to pack MCC school kits at the Material Resources Center in North Newton. You'll be helping MCC reach our 2026 School Kit Challenge goal of 30,000 school kits this summer! There is more information at mcc.org/grandparent-days or you can contact brociamueller@mcc.org or call her at 316.836.5045.

Colorado peaches are coming! Palisade peaches from western Colorado will be available for pre-order starting June 15. Two sizes are available: **9 lb. for \$31 and 18 lb. for \$43**. An additional \$1 per box has been added as fuel expenses will be higher this summer. **All orders must be received and paid in full by July 15.** No orders will be accepted after this date. Orders can be placed by emailing the MCC Central States Office at patsydirksen@mcc.org or calling 316-283-2720. Cash and checks are accepted. Checks should be made payable to **Beth-El Mennonite Church** with "peaches" in the memo line. Please send payments to MCC, PO Box 235, North Newton KS 67117 or drop off at the MCC office located at 121 East 30th, North Newton. Estimated pick-up date is **Monday, August 10** at the MCC warehouse. This date will be confirmed later in July. Beth-El Mennonite Church in Colorado Springs sells the peaches as a fundraiser for bierocks ingredients that are sold at the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale, October 17 in Castle Rock, CO. Thank you for supporting MCC!

MCC Peace & Justice Journal invites us, in this latest issue of the [MCC Peace & Justice Journal](#) to reflect on building peace in times of violence. This issue includes statistics, policy principles and worship resources. In peace churches throughout the U.S. today, increasing concerns are heard about a military draft. While it is vitally important to preserve the option of conscientious objection, we should not stop there. As we work to ensure our children are not sent to fight in a war, we should make sure *their* children are not killed in one. Our choice today, as it was then, is not between violence or apathy. Jesus showed a third way. He turned over tables in the temple, rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, publicly denounced corrupt religious leaders. Jesus challenged empire. Not with weapons or hate, but with love and courage. To have the Journal delivered to your doorstep, send an email to npjm@mcc.org or call 202-544-6564.

MCC invites youth to examine convictions about war

As U.S. military activity increases around the world, MCC invites teenagers and young adults to examine their beliefs about participation in war and to record their convictions on a Christian Peacemaker Registration Form. The form is one way that young men and women can build evidence of their peace witness. If the government were to reinstitute a national draft for military service, the form could be used to support a person's application to be a conscientious objector (CO) to war. A recent change in federal law allows the U.S. Selective Service System to automatically register men, ages 18-25, using government data such as social security numbers. This system will replace a requirement for men to register themselves when they turn 18, which less than 40% did. The law will go into effect in December 2026. Questions? Contact Becky Teiwes, MCC Central States Peace & Justice Practice Coordinator.

MCC Immigration Learning Tour, Nov. 1-6 – Sign up today for this immigration focused learning tour in South Texas and Mexico. This tour will focus on immigration, detention and death at the U.S./Mexico border by giving you the opportunity to engage directly with MCC partners in the region. Questions? Contact abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org and sign up online today at mcc.org/tx-immigration-learning-tour!

The summer 2026 issue of Intersections on "Interfaith Engagement," compiled by the director of MCC's planning, learning, and disaster response department, Alain Epp Weaver, is now on the MCC website. See link [here](#). Authors reflect how interfaith engagement forms an essential dimension of humanitarian assistance, community development, and peacebuilding work in Indonesia, Bangladesh, India, Chad, Nigeria, Canada, Iraq, and Syria.

E-MEMO: A NEWSLETTER FROM MCC U.S. NATIONAL PEACE & JUSTICE MINISTRIES

Jesus meant what he said — a conversation with Sarah Augustine (excerpt)

Sarah Augustine's name may be familiar to you. She is an Indigenous Mennonite published author, scholar, advocate, organizer, and speaker — and one who dares to take the teachings of Jesus seriously. In a recent conversation with me on MCC's podcast Undercurrents, Sarah brought those teachings to bear on some of the most urgent questions facing people of faith today: What does the gospel actually demand of us — not just spiritually, but economically and politically? And where does our security truly come from? Pointing to Luke 4:18, Sarah roots the ministry of Jesus firmly in the tradition of the Hebrew prophets. In her words: "Jesus is coming to fulfil the prophecy of these prophets who were calling on a society to embody justice. Jesus came to liberate the poor. And he's very clear about that."

She pushed back against the tendency to soften that message — to limit Jesus' concern for prisoners and the oppressed only to cases we find sympathetic. Jesus was not offering conditional liberation: "He says, 'Release for the prisoner and freedom for the oppressed.' Not [just] if it's a cause that I agree with and it makes sense from my point of view. He's saying freedom for the oppressed and the announcement of justice, the just reordering of human systems." From there, the conversation turned to something equally challenging — the myth of individual security through personal wealth. . . . That illusion, she argued, carries devastating consequences: "I would even go further to say it's an illusion that is breaking the world — not just Christians, but all people of privilege who are saying, 'Hey, I need to have a 5% rate of return.' Really? Why? Why do we believe that we deserve to have money that we did not earn? And that money comes from extraction, which is devastating to Indigenous peoples and all peoples and creation."

And so Sarah has made a personal decision — a theological one as much as a financial one: "I personally am not willing to invest in systems that are going to exploit the life support systems we all depend on or the most vulnerable peoples. I don't want any part of that." . . . Where then does she turn? To the Psalms, and to the daily practice of trust: "I lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my hope come from? My hope comes from the Lord, the creator of the heaven and earth. The manna that is provided to me is for today

and I don't get to hold it over. It spoils and turns to ash when I try and hold it over." Sarah's prophetic voice is challenging, but this conversation is also full of hope and inspiration. Listen (or watch) the full conversation on [Youtube](#), [Apple](#), [Spotify](#), or wherever you listen to podcasts.

Join us for **Borderlands & Beyond Monthly Charlas**, a conversation series about the daily realities of migration led by the MCC U.S. Immigration Network. Info and registration for the Zoom link: mcc.org/events/borderlands-and-beyond-monthly-charlas-mcc.

Date: Every 3rd Thursday of the month (January to December 2026), 6:00 PM CT

MENNONITE WOMEN IN MISSION Women & Girls Retreat @ Camp Mennoscah

On-line registration is open for the annual Mennonite Women in Mission Women's & Girls (ages 8 - high school) Retreat at Camp Mennoscah on September 12-13. Forms are available on the website for printing for mail in registration, although online is preferred and easy! Detailed schedule information and registration is at www.mennonitewomeninmission.org. Retreat starts at 10 a.m. Saturday with SoulCollage™ with Elizabeth Eells, comforter tying for MCC, and the Faith & Life bookstore open. The retreat theme is "My Time is in Your Hands" with session speakers Melissa Atchison & Audrey Ratzlaff. Girls' leaders are Schyler Entz and Emily Brandt with an additional girls tie dye bandana session with Marla Sowatzky Towe. Come join us for fun, fellowship, and inspiration! Questions? Email mennonitewomeninmission@gmail.com.

MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK JUST PEACE PILGRIMAGE

"Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples Pilgrimage" September 22-26, 2026 in Navajoland near Bluff, Utah. The event will be led by Sarah Augustine and Joe Hubbard. See Mennonite Mission Network <https://www.mennonitemission.net/>. A partnership of Mennonite Mission Network and the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery.

JUST PEACE PILGRIMAGE . . RACIAL JUSTICE PILGRIMAGE: SOUTH AFRICA. September 9-22

This pilgrimage invites you into a deep and reflective exploration of South Africa's history, shaped by the intertwined forces of settler colonialism and apartheid – a ruthless socio-political system that entrenched racial segregation and inequality; and the pivotal part played by South African faith communities. Cost \$3,100 + international airfare; optional safari is an additional \$1,000. Registration deadline: July 15. <https://www.mennonitemission.net/serve/just-peace-pilgrimage/>

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE

Our June edition of On the Level is now available. In this edition, Executive Director Kevin King shares some uplifting examples of MDS volunteers at work, read about a new collaboration to build bridges in North Carolina, and listen to the latest MDS podcast featuring the late Don Mintmier. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/4xAo1So>. You may also wish to hear Cleo Koop and Jason Stutzman in their presentations during FMC's June 7 worship service. Go to <https://hutchfmc.org/> and find June 7 in the worship archive.

ANABAPTIST MENNONITE BIBLICAL SEMINARY study opportunities

Online Short Course: Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible: Sept. 16 – Oct. 27. Join Paul Keim, PhD, and Drew Strait, PhD, to study pertinent Scripture passages and reflect on how these texts contribute to a robust and biblically based practice of peace and justice today. This online short course of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary lasts six weeks. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Register by Aug. 26 to save \$50. ambs.edu/online-short-courses

Spiritual Direction: Foundations. Strengthen your skills in offering spiritual direction through the first level of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's supervised spiritual direction program. This course, which can

be completed in person or fully online, will help you grow in confidence and competence as a spiritual director. The seminar begins Sept. 1; apply by July 15 to save \$200. ambs.edu/seminars

Distance-friendly graduate-level courses for fall! Non-admitted students get 50% off their first two courses for credit. And AMBS graduates can audit selected courses for \$121/credit hour! Semester One courses run **Sept. 1 – Dec. 11**, and the courses listed below are three credit hours each, unless noted. Register by **Aug. 24**.

Online courses (generally not available for auditing)

The weekly online coursework for these courses can be done on your own schedule.

- Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture
- Christian Ethics and Peace Theology
- Christian Leadership in the 21st Century
- Introduction to Biblical Languages (one credit hour)
- Practical Theology of the Climate Crisis

ANABAPTIST DISABILITIES NETWORK offers this book review for parents and educators *Naturally Inclusive* (Gryphon House, 2022) by Ruth Wilson is an excellent resource for parents and educators looking for practical advice on helping young people with disabilities to connect with the natural world. Click here for more information. <https://www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org/naturally-inclusive/>

ET CETERA SHOP seeks Director of Operations

The Hutchinson Et Cetera Shop, a volunteer based, non-profit thrift store that supports Mennonite Central Committee and local non-profits is seeking a part-time Director of Operations. Send resume to Delon Martens, 22 North Main, Hutchinson KS 67501, or delon@etchutch.org

SECONDS ON 2nd . . volunteers 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.

CAMP MENNOSCAH announcements

Items needed for the Retreat Center are shower curtains (opaque white preferred), queen mattress pads, queen comforters and queen fitted & flat sheets. Three queen beds were added for a total of 4 rooms with queen beds. Camp Mennoscah needs a good camera (digital SLR with interchangeable lenses). Donations can be either funds or the items themselves.

WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE announcements

Preparing for the WDC Annual Assembly includes posting information for WDC churches and members. Watch commission, task force, and ministry partner impact videos on our YouTube Channel, [HERE](#) to get a taste of what WDC leaders are doing on your behalf and with you! For a deeper dive, read annual written reports [HERE](#). WDC Annual Assembly, August 7-9, in person at Iglesia Luz del Evangelio, Dallas, TX, or remotely from your own home. Register [HERE](#) by July 26!

MENNONITE CHURCH USA announcements

“Our faith calls us to stand with those whose voices are systemically marginalized,” wrote Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, MC USA’s denominational minister of Peace and Justice, in response to the U.S. Supreme Court’s recent ruling weakening the **Voting Rights Act**. Read her lament here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/lament-ruling-on-voting-rights/>

Stay connected with the latest news, inspiring stories, upcoming events and resources from Mennonite Church USA through **PeaceMail**, MC USA’s biweekly e-newsletter. [Mennoniteusa.org/peacemail](https://www.mennoniteusa.org/peacemail)