

THIS WEEK @ FMC

October 7-13, 2026

*Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Life-giver, Pain-bearer,
source of all that is and ever shall be,
you have showered us with abundance.
With the food we need for today, feed us.
For the hurt we cause, forgive us.
As we lose our way, restore us.
Enlarge within us the sense of fellowship with all living creatures,
all part of the family of God.
Tune our hearts to live in harmony with Christ,
with the Earth,
with all creatures,
and with our neighbor.
Now and forever. Amen.*

(from a Communion Liturgy written by Wendy Janzen:
https://togetherinworship.net/FileDownload/45497/Copy_of_Communion.pdf)

-Pastor Tonya

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, OCTOBER 11

COVENANT and COMMANDMENTS (Narrative Lectionary)

Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17

Preacher: Tonya Ramer Wenger

Worship Leader: Jon Miller

Organist: Shelley Kauffman

Song Leader: Bryan Kehr

Children's Time: Joy Miller & Delon Martens

Scripture Reader: Randy Rempel

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

Ushers: Carol Moore & Ken Neufeld

Nursery Attendant: Maggie Pounds

Sound Tech: Adam Pounds

Livestream Tech: Joel Iwashige

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

October 7 – WNAF begins (1st of 4 sessions), 5:30 dinner, 6:30 sessions for adults & for children
October 11 – Celebration of the 25th anniversary of Pastor Tonya's ordination for pastoral ministry
October 11 – FMC leads worship at Mennonite Friendship Communities, 10:00am in the chapel
October 11 – Reno County CROP Walk, Rice Park, 1:30pm registration
October 12 – Craft Night, 6:30-8:00pm
October 25 – 12pm FMC Budget Meeting (with youth fundraiser hamburger fry for lunch!)
October 27 – Mennonite Friendship Communities "Evening at the Burt" fundraising dinner & silent auction
October 31 - Justice Ministry: 10:00am Community Problems Assembly in Salina
October 31 – Donuts on the Lawn
November 15 – Mission Festival with guest speaker from Central States Mennonite Central Committee

DEEPENING in Christ...

PRAYER GROUPS & OPPORTUNITIES

If you would like to join with others at FMC for prayer, please let the church office know.

The ecumenical Centering Prayer group will meet the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in October and November. The schedule will be re-evaluated as we head into December.

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: Tuesday October 13 @ 1:00pm

NO evening group in October – will meet again November 11 @ 6:30pm

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL

The fall Sunday School quarter begins for everyone on September 13!

Preschool-8th grade: Shine curriculum

Senior Youth: upstairs in the youth room

Adults: Confessional Bible Study in the fellowship hall (or on Zoom)

CONFESSIONAL BIBLE STUDY – FALL ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

All adults are invited to participate in the **Confessional Bible Study (CBS)** during the Sunday School hour this fall. Each week we consider a different scripture passage and follow a 3-step pattern as follows: 1) study and engagement with scripture, 2) artful/creative response, and 3) worship response. All are invited to join us whenever you are able.

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

- *UPPER ROOM* – September-October issue is here
- *Rejoice!* – September-November issue is here

STRENGTHENING Community Connections...

CHURCH OFFICE REGULAR HOURS

- Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm
- Wednesday 12 noon – 3:00pm (No Wednesday hours on September 30)

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) – October 28

FALL WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT FIRST (WNAF) BEGINS OCTOBER 7 – The Inner Work of Aging

In October we'll gather for four Wednesday evenings focusing on the theme *"The Inner Work of Aging."*

Leading us will be Dawn Yoder Harms, newly retired chaplain from Kidron/Bethel in North Newton and Anita Kehr, chaplain at Showalter Villa. We'll begin with a shared dinner between 5:30-6:30pm (provided) followed by the adult program and activities for kids from 6:30-7:30pm.

This four-session series provides opportunity for participants to reflect on the challenges and opportunities of growing older and the invitation to live fully now. Topics will include:

- **Oct 7: Coming to Terms: Moving toward acceptance** (Dawn)
- **Oct 14: Refocusing priorities and purpose** (Dawn)
- **Oct 21: The Harvest of our Lives: how might I bless those who follow?** (Dawn)
- **Oct 28: Dying Well** (Anita)

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.

FMC BOOK GROUP begins fall study of Kate Bowler's book, JOYFUL, ANYWAY

New participants are invited to join us for our fall read . . . Wednesdays at 1:00pm in Common Grounds Room. It's not too late to join! Each participant buys or borrows their own book. If you need help, check with the church office. Here is our reading/discussion schedule:

- October 7 . . chapters 6-14
- October 14 . . chapters 15-19
- October 21 . . chapters 20-25
- October 28 . . chapters 26-35
- November 4 . . chapters 36-40
- November 11 . . chapters 41-44
- November 18 . . chapters 45-48

PLAYGROUP for toddlers & preschoolers first and third Fridays

Playgroup for toddlers and preschoolers will be on the first and third Fridays of every month from 9 am-10 am. Typically, it will be downstairs in the fellowship area near the air hockey table, but sometimes we are at a park. Feel free to share with your neighbors, friends, and relatives and invite them to join. Feel free to call or text Joy with any questions [\(717\)471-4503](tel:7174714503).

STRETCHING to Serve as Christ Served...

RENO COUNTY FOOD BANK . . .

The need for food and monetary gifts has increased substantially! Let's help restock the shelves!

October: Canned soup

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 INTERFAITH JUSTICE ORGANIZATION

This fall **over 25 congregations in Central Kansas** (including First Mennonite) are taking the next steps to organize for justice. At our church, our Justice Ministry Team is being led by Peggy Stucky, Carol Moore, Susan Combs and Jane Wagler. We commissioned them on Sunday Sept 13 for this important ministry. Supporting them is Jeanne Koontz, the lead organizer of the Central Kansas Justice Ministry. Below are details about what's coming up!!

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026: LISTENING PHASE is underway!! Our goal is 110 House meetings with 850 people present, and 650+ committed Network Members. As of this week (October 5), we're up to 96 completed listening conversations! Of those 96, eighty-seven have reported 900 participants with 612 joining the justice ministry network! **NEXT ...** at the **OCTOBER 31 Covenant Assembly**, attended by over 400 leaders (team members, clergy and more – including some of you!!) from member organizations, we'll discern and vote to focus on two of the four issues brought to the table from the listening sessions. This is also where we'll vote on a name and bylaws/structure for the organization.

DECEMBER 2026-MAY 2027: Then, we'll begin a **RESEARCH PHASE** spanning **December 2026-April 2027**. During that time two committees of lay leaders and clergy will meet to shape solutions to the identified problems. On **APRIL 2, 2027** these solutions will be presented to the team members, clergy and more from member organizations, and the work will begin to organize to gather a 'great assembly' of people from our member organizations. That work culminates on **MAY 1, 2027** as we gather with 1500-2000 others for our first **NEHEMIAH ASSEMBLY**. This is the day we ask our entire membership to gather (just one time a year among the 52 times we gather for worship) to **do justice**, pressing the decision makers in our communities for clear, concrete systemic solutions to the most pressing problems facing Central KS.

SALTHAWK COMMUNITY SUPPORT (SCS) . . . providing services to Hutch students 8-12th grades

Salthawk Community Support is a local nonprofit housed under the umbrella of Trinity UMC that FMC has been involved with from its beginning. ***This fall Cindy Kroeker is taking Pastor Tonya's place on the board.*** 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).

ET CETERA ANNOUNCES NEW GENERAL MANAGER

The Et Cetera Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Sheila Bartley as the new General Manager, effective Tuesday, Oct 6. Sheila replaces Delon Martens who has been manager for the past five years and has moved to Kidron Bethel Village in North Newton. Sheila comes with a

diverse background in administration and volunteer work. Raised in Hutchinson, Sheila remains committed to her community and family. She has been married for 33 years to Thad Bartley. They have one daughter, Dr. Megan Bartley. Sheila is active at Journey @ South Hutch Church and also participates in JAM (Jesus And Me). She enjoys volunteering with various organizations, particularly Clothed In Compassion, Inc. She also enjoys gardening and other outdoor activities. Sheila is eager to meet Et Cetera and Seconds on 2nd staff and volunteers. She will spend the first few weeks getting to know everyone, the various areas of our organization and behind-the-scenes operations at both facilities. She and Delon will be working closely over the next weeks to ensure a smooth transition. You are invited to stop by Et Cetera and meet Sheila as she takes on the role of General Manager.

BETHEL COLLEGE announcements

Bethel College is offering a new Math Problem-Solving & Test Prep Series for high school juniors and seniors looking to prepare for the ACT, build confidence, master new strategies and tackle tough math challenges. Fall dates are **Sat., Oct. 10, Nov. 7 and Dec. 5, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**, with different topics and activities each time and with lunch provided after. There is no cost to attend (one, two or all three) but [registration](#) is required.

Now in the Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College – “This is Bob: Student, Teacher, Artist,” a career-spanning review of work by Bob Regier, through Oct. 17. Gallery hours: Mon.-Fri., 9-5, Sun. 2-4.

Bethel College Fall Festival – October 15-18. [Click here to view the full schedule.](#)

Features include music, food, class reunions, football (Bethel vs. Tabor), the musical *The Spitfire Grill* by James Valcq and Fred Alley, and a 75th-anniversary celebration of the Bethel-Wuppertal student exchange.

Bethel College Women’s Association (BCWA) welcomes donations of homemade peppernuts, whole fruit pies, poppyseed rolls, zwieback, cinnamon rolls and other home-made goodies. We are happy to have donated craft items to sell as well. We would also welcome help staffing the Market in the Round, located in the Luyken Fine Arts Center. If you would like to volunteer or have questions about donations, please contact Valerie Klaassen at jvklaassen@gmail.com. Donated baked and craft items can be brought to Luyken Fine Arts Center music library on Friday, October 16, between 1 and 5 pm or on Saturday, October 17, between 7 and 9 am. This Fall Fest fundraiser supports students and campus improvements throughout the year.

Mennonite History Tour to Poland planned for July 2027

Poland provided a refuge for Mennonites for centuries. Mennonites lived there before migrating to Russia and the United States. Most Mennonites of the Great Plains and the prairie provinces of Canada thus can trace their roots to the Vistula River valley. The Mennonite Experience in Poland Tour, July 9-20, 2027, will trace this history as well as explore Polish history, culture and cuisine. Special features include a tour of the Malbork castle, headquarters of the Teutonic Knights, and a boat ride on the grass via the Elbląg/Elbing canal that uses a rail lift system instead of locks. We will also identify and visit specific villages where your ancestors lived. The tour is sponsored by the Mennonite Polish Studies Association and led by Dr. Mark Jantzen ’85, Bethel professor of history, and John D. Thiesen ’82, co-director of libraries and archivist for the Mennonite Library and Archives at Bethel. All tour details and much additional information about Mennonites in Poland and Prussia can be found at this link:

<https://mla.bethelks.edu/information/mpsa.php>

Thurs., Oct. 22 – The biennial Senses & Aging Symposium, “Charles Bonnet Syndrome,” with presenters Daniel Kish and Jaymes Squires, 6-7:30 p.m., Kidron Hall at Kidron Bethel Village ([3001 Ivy Dr., North Newton](#))

HESSTON COLLEGE announcements

Prints and Mixed Media art exhibit by Susan Fox open at Hesston College

A prints and mixed media exhibit by Newton artist Susan Fox is featured in the Regier-Friesen Gallery located in Hesston College's Laban Peachey Center ([325 S. College Dr., Hesston](#)) from October 1 through 30. A reception with the artist is scheduled for October 14. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and admission is free.

Disc Golf Tournament, October 10 during Hesstival

Join the Hesston College disc golf team for its annual fundraiser tournament, now rescheduled as part of the Hesstival! The tournament takes place Saturday, October 10, at the Doug Unruh Memorial Disc Golf Course on the Hesston College campus. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. with a 9 a.m. shotgun start. All ages and skill levels are welcome; cost is \$20 to enter. Register at hesston.edu/dgtourney or walk up the morning of the event.

Larktoberfest: Fall Fun at the Diamond, October 30

Hesston College Softball is excited to announce a new event, Larktoberfest: Fall Fun at the Diamond on Friday, October 30. Come for a softball scrimmage versus Fort Hays Tech Northwest at 5 p.m. and stay for this family-friendly fall festival for the entire community featuring a bounce house, games, food, trunk-or-treat and face painting.

RENO COUNTY CROP HUNGER WALK . . . October 11 @ Rice Park, 1:30pm registration

One-quarter of the funds we raise will stay local, divided between the Christian Soup Ministry, Inc. and the Reno County Food Bank. We hope to raise enough to send a \$1000 check to each agency. Angela Penner, Food Bank Director, and Stanley Murdock, Soup Ministry Director, plan to be on hand to tell us some of the many ways they can use our donations. Our global neighbors need our help, too. CWS will use what we raise to provide "good seeds to the sower" as they work with family farmers to improve their yields. CWS also helps communities dig local wells—precluding the need for girls who should be in school to walk three miles and then carry water home for their families. **If you would like to send donations in advance (whether or not you can walk on October 11), please make checks payable to CWS/CROP and send them to Grace Episcopal Church, 2 Hyde Park Dr, Hutchinson, KS 67502.**

MENNONITE FRIENDSHIP COMMUNITIES . . . Evening at the Burt – October 27

Join us for an elegant evening of philanthropy and celebration at the Crystal Ballroom at The Burt (3 West Avenue B). This is a wonderful time for the community to gather for a delicious catered dinner, good fellowship, silent auction and a presentation by Trooper Ben Gardner. Single tickets are \$200 and a table for eight is \$1,500. For more information, please talk with the board members from our church (Russ Wedel or Jonathan Wenger) or contact Susan Mueller at [620-663-7175](tel:620-663-7175). Your support will help fund renovation in the south healthcare neighborhood – carpeting, wall covering and redesign of the central nurse's station.

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH IN HALSTEAD . . . Hog Roast, Sunday, October 18

First Mennonite Church in Halstead invites you to their annual **Hog Roast** on Sunday, October 18, from 5-7 p.m. at the gazebo in Scout Park ([327 Locust St., Halstead, KS](#)). Bring your lawn chair and enjoy an evening of music from Eric Schrag & family along with a pulled pork meal and sides. Cost is by donation with proceeds going to Camp Mennoscah.

HOFFNUNGSAU MENNONITE CHURCH . . . Annual Mission Supper, Saturday, October 24

Hoffnungsau Church, 43 13th Ave, Inman, invites you **Saturday, October 24, 5:00 – 6:30**, curbside pick up with tables outside and inside available if you want to stay and eat. Please text or call Barb at [620-543-](tel:620-543-)

[6863](#) to order a meal of German sausage, mashed potatoes, creamed peas, zwiebach and pie. Payment is by donation with all proceeds going towards Safe Hope in Harvey, McPherson and Marion Counties.

HOPE MENNONITE CHURCH . . . Craft Bazaar and Peppernut Sale, Saturday, November 14

Join **Hope Mennonite Church** for their annual **Craft Bazaar and Peppernut Sale** on Saturday, November 14, 2026 from 9:00 am-2:00 pm. This will take place at the church building at [868 N. Maize Road, Wichita, KS](#). All proceeds from the event will help support Hope Mennonite Church service projects: MCC, Camp Mennoscah, Family Promise and the Kansas Food Bank. Come enjoy a bake sale featuring peppernuts, local vendors selling homemade items, Quilter's Corner, and breakfast and lunch – Cinnamon Rolls, German Sausage, Bierocks, Pie, and more. All are welcome — entry is free!

KANSAS COALITION ON THE DEATH PENALTY . . . annual Abolition Meeting

Join us at **1 p.m. on Saturday November 21st to hear from persons with first-hand experience of the death penalty**. This is a virtual event so persons all over Kansas or elsewhere are welcome to join us! There is no charge to attend. We hope you can join us!

Panelists will be:

- **Celeste Dixon** is a murder victim family member. The man who murdered her mother was executed in TX.
- **Dale Baich** is a death penalty attorney. He witnessed 16 executions.
- **Gary Mohr** is a corrections professional. He supervised 15 executions.

Time: 1 p.m. conference, 2:30 annual meeting. **Location:** Zoom

Registration: <https://forms.gle/MPewi5RkuMxTfv1PA> for Zoom access.

CAMP MENNOSCAH announcements

Dam removal on October 18 at 2:30pm! Spectators and helpers are welcome. This task involves heavy boards and rushing water, so younger ages should plan on watching the process, not helping. Wear appropriate clothing for the task and weather. Watch Facebook for any changes or text/call [316-293-7313](tel:316-293-7313).

Camp Mennoscah will have a booth at Bethel College's Fall Fest, October 17, through mid-afternoon. There will be a silent auction for a Camp Mennoscah tee shirt (tied) comforter. Timothy Schrag, the new Development Director, will also be there to meet you.

ANABAPTIST DISABILITIES NETWORK . . . two webinars and the fall fundraiser Children as Docents in a World of Wonder

Webinar on Wednesday, October 14, 1:00pm on Zoom; Dr. Benjamin Conner, presenter.

How might our engagement with children of all abilities and animals (specifically horses in this presentation) awaken in us wonder? In what ways can engaging in wonder enrich our ways of knowing and our ways of witnessing to the ongoing creative and redemptive work of God in the world? Information here: <https://www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org/resources/education-awareness/webinars/>

Thy Tender Care: What Caregiving and Disability Can Teach Us about the Kingdom of God

Webinar on Wednesday, October 28, 10:00am on Zoom; author John van Sloten, presenter.

In this intimate portrait of parenthood, a driven father discovers the life-transforming presence of God through his relationship with his son Edward, a young man with Down syndrome who is also nonverbal.

Anabaptist Disabilities Network fall fundraiser calls us with this scripture from Isaiah 55:1: "Let all who thirst come to the water." The heart of our mission at ADN is to help every congregation to become a place where all who thirst for God find belonging. AND supports congregations to become more accessible through Barrier-Free Grants, curriculum for youth and adults with intellectual disabilities, and more. We

have raised \$7,500 toward a goal of \$15,000. Send your check: Anabaptist Disabilities Network, 3145 Benham Avenue, Suite 5, Elkhart, IN 46517-1970 or give online:

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=E55WVD6NEDA9A

ANABAPTIST MENNONITE BIBLICAL SEMINARY announcements

Online Practical Leadership Training modules. Grow your leadership skills through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's affordable short-term online modules! Offerings include Discernment in the Face of Big Tech and Leadership Practices for Spiritual Vitality. CEUs available. Learn more and register: ambs.edu/plt

MENNONITE MISSION NETWORK announcements

Secure your place early for the 2027-28 service term. Whether you are finishing high school, leaving college, or anywhere in between, these two programs offer young adults a meaningful way to serve, learn new skills, and grow. Visit MennoniteMission.net/Serve to learn more.

MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE announcements

IN TOUCH – a monthly newsletter of Mennonite Central Committee. Sign up to subscribe to this monthly newsletter and receive it in your inbox: <https://mcc.org/impact/newsletters>

The fall 2026 issue of *Intersections* on "Reproductive Health," compiled by MCC health program lead, Laena Maunula, is now on the MCC website. See the link to the issue [here](#). MCC staff reflect on learnings from MCC-supported reproductive health efforts in Chad, Kenya, Burundi, Indonesia, Egypt, Nigeria, and Bolivia.

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

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MENNONITE CHURCH USA announcements

Walking with hope on the Camino de Santiago. In his Menno Snapshots blog, Marco Güete, MC USA's director of Hispanic Ministries, reflects on walking the Camino de Santiago with his wife, Sandra, and the hope he sees in God's work through Hispanic Ministries, theological education and a new generation of Hispanic pastors and church leaders. Read "Walking with hope: Seeing God at work along the way" here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/walking-with-hope/>

Now available: Fall issue of Equipping. Check out the fall issue of Equipping, Mennonite Church USA's quarterly digital resource digest for upcoming events, congregational resources and learning opportunities. Read it (and subscribe) here: <https://bit.ly/4qzriOB>

MENNONITE DISASTER SERVICE . . . On the Level – September issue

Our September edition of On the Level is now available. In this edition, Executive Director Kevin King shares his personal trauma following a biking accident, learn about three generations of MDS volunteers, meet the new year-long volunteers, and read about some recipients of the "Golden Hammer" award. Plus we have new information about the Annual Celebration coming in February. Click on this link to read more:

<https://conta.cc/4iqKRqo>