**First Mennonite Church of Christian**

Pastor Laura Goerzen, Pianist – Lu Goering, Greeters – Jerry & Deloris Voth, Worship Leader – Pat Krehbiel

December 1, 2019

**Gathering and Praising**

Prelude

Welcome

Announcements

*\*Gathering Hymn – “How shall I receive thee” #182*

Call to Worship

Leader: In Advent God calls us to become new,

**People: to make room for our own nativity, even when there is no room at the inn.**

Leader: Where we are busy--

**People: grant peace.**

Leader: Where we are lost--

**People: grant salvation.**

Leader: Where we are sad--

**People: grant joy.**

Leader: Where we are bitter—

**People: grant love.**

Leader: May this be a time to hope for all these gifts of God.

***ALL: Amen.***

Children’s Time – Preparing for Jesus

Advent Hymn “He came down” STJ #31 (acapella)

Scripture Reading –Genesis 3:8-19

Advent Poem – “Crush” read by Lurline Wiens

Special Music Laura Goerzen

**Receiving God’s Word**

Sermon – “Why a Messiah?” Laura Goerzen

Advent Poem – “Sift” read by Lurline Wiens

Hymn of Response *–* “I am weak and I need thy strength” #553

**Sharing with One Another**

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Prayer of the Church

 Offering

Offertory Prayer

**Going in God’s Name**

*\*Sung Benediction – “O come, O come, Immanuel” #172 v. 1-2*

*\*Benediction*

Postlude

\**Those who are able are invited to stand*

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Pastor Laura’s email: laura.n.goerzen@gmail.com

Pastor Laura’s Cell Phone: 620-386-0518

Pastor’s office Hours: Tues.—Thurs. 9:30AM-1:30PM,

Fri. 1:00-4:30PM

Study Phone 620-345-8766

Church Secretary: Lurline Wiens

Lurline’s phone number: 620-345-6657

Lurline’s email: fmcc.secretary1@gmail.com

Office hours: Tues. 1:00-4:30PM, Thurs-Fri. 8:30AM-11:30am

Church Phone: 620-345-2546

Church Website: www.fmccmoundridge.org

For the coming year, Christian Peacemaker Teams will be focusing on one of our core values to transform structures of domination and oppression. For the CPT Palestine team, this means being on the ground to witness, record and when appropriate intervene in human rights violations conducted by the Israeli military; standing at checkpoints and accompanying children to and from school; responding to emergencies 24 hours a day; supporting families when their children are detained or arrested, finding out as much information as possible and reporting it to the necessary authorities who liaise for their release; being partner led and being present with partners when they organize events and non-violent demonstrations; s when settler attacks are most likely to occur; spending time in villages under threat of demolition, often being there at night when the bulldozers are most likely to roll in. Every human rights violation CPT witnesses is documented and compiled into quarterly reports, with a special school report being composed each semester. CPT shares these reports with the international community as well as within home communities where they are used to advocate for Palestinian rights.

**Advent:**

**Why Jesus?**

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**First Mennonite Church of Christian**

**Moundridge, KS**

**A welcoming Community of Christians for Peace**

**December 1, 2019**

**Opportunities**

**Today:** 9:30 am Sunday School

 10:30 am Worship Service

**December 1:** Hanging of the Greens, 3:00 pm, soup supper to follow

**December 2:** Library meeting. 7:00 pm

**December 4:**  Church Board, 8:00 pm

**December 5:** Worship Team, 9:30am

**December 9:** Friendship Circle, Caroling at Pine Village, 2:00 pm

**December 11:** Deacons, 1:30 pm

**December 24:** Christmas Eve program

**January 5:** Year End Celebration, 6:30 pm

**Sunday, December 8:** Delonna Barnett–pianist, Greeters–Jerry & Delores Voth, Worship Leader–Gordon Goering, Special music–Tom & Diana Graber

If you have come to help me, then you are wasting your time.  But if you have come because your liberation is bound up in mine, then let us work together.
                                                                                                                                   - Lilla Watson, Australian artist

**Announcements**

**Wilbur Voth** is at Pine Village for several weeks recovering from a fractured fibula.  His room is #510.

**The mail boxes** in the foyer have again been put in alphabetical order. Some names have changed places. Let Lurline know if you cannot find your name.

**December Library Meeting**, Monday, December 2, 7pm.

**Thank you** to everyone who donated to the mcc relief kits this quarter! We reached our goal!

**Junior high and high school** Sunday schools will start meeting at West Zion for the winter quarter on December 8. Until then they will meet at our church.

**This Christmas Season** the Associated Ministries of Moundridge is selling coffee grown in Honduras by the family of Moundridge native Julia Niehage Williams.  Besides the regular coffee, we are offering coffee with four different added flavors: Caramel Macchiato, French Vanilla, Pumpkin Spice and Ja Maka Me Krazy.  All varieties can be purchased whole bean or freshly ground.  The green order forms are available on the south bulletin board .  Mail your order forms as shown on the form or call Rick Krehbiel at 620-386-4147 to place your order!

**Get involved with something BIG – record breaking BIG!** MCC is celebrating our 100th anniversary and attempting to collect 6500 comforters to deliver to people in need all around the world. Get involved by tying a comforter on January 18, 2020 (mark your calendars now!). We are looking for people to host a comforter tying event in their community. Contact Kate Mast at 316.283.2720 or katemast@mcc.org for details, supplies and resources. It’s more than a warm blanket – it’s a message of love and compassion.

**Moundridge will hold this event** (Great Winter Warmup) to complete comforters on January 18, 2020, at Pine Village Wellness Center.  You can support this event by making tops for comforters or with donations and also by coming to help complete comforters in January.  If you have never tied a comforter we will teach you at this event.  Watch for more info. Contact Sharon Gehring, Lu Goering or Marna Goering if questions.

  **Everence** ® will hold an all-inclusive retirement planning workshop on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Topics will include Medicare, Social Security and retirement income planning. The workshop will be presented by Everence staff and will take place at Everence Financial, 3179 N. Main St., North Newton. Reserve your spot soon by contacting Michelle Ramer at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

**MCC Sale** is April 17 & 18, 2020. Start your craft project, you woodworking project, or you metal works project now to donate to the sale. The sale will welcome whatever you feel/are willing to give.

**2020 is the 100 year anniversary of the Mennonite Central Committee.**The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale would like to celebrate this milestone by gifting MCC ONE MILLION DOLLARS.  The Kansas Sale was founded to support the ministry of Relief, Development, and Peace in the name of Christ.  This would require 1,000 people to each give $1,000 to get to one million dollars by April 17, the first day of the 2020 Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. Please send your check made payable to KMRS earmarked "centennial gift" to Tim Miller, Relief Sale Treasurer, 4805 S. Broadacres Rd, Hutchinson, Kansas 67501. If you have questions, please ask your church sale contact person(s) or call Jim Robb, Board Chair at 620-747-0186.

**Please consider joining Kansas Mennonite Men’s Chorus** for their upcoming season. This is a multi-denominational choir that contains men from Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, Missouri and Oklahoma. This is your opportunity to make a joyful noise while praising God with 200+ of

your brothers. It is also a way to make a difference in the world through MCC as all of the concert proceeds go to MCC. We have been singing in the states and across Europe for more than fifty years. We have raised over $700,000 for MCC that has helped many people around the world.

Here are some words from our director Greg Bontrager, “We need to find that passion and belief that we are part of something so special that we want more men of all ages and denominations to join us. It has to come from all involved, not just the contact men. Find the courage and invite a friend! I hope that as we journey together this season, we will experience the love and compassion of Christ and generate the vision of KMMC to all - We sing that others may live.” So please consider joining our men as we continue the KMMC tradition of singing that others may live. Contact your local contact man or you can contact Aaron Stucky the membership chair at stuckya2003@yahoo.com or (620) 249-1363.

**Bethel College:**

**Wed., Dec. 4** – Annual sing-along to Christmas portions of Handel’s *Messiah*, with Bethel College instrumentalists, soloists and student conductors, **11 a.m.**, *Bethel College Mennonite Church*; scores provided

**Wed., Dec. 4** – Bethel College Steel Drum Band Christmas concert, 7 p.m., *Memorial Hall*(NOTE: different from some printed calendars)

 Fri., Dec. 6 – Christmas Gala jazz concert with Bethel College Jazz Ensemble I and Jazz Combo, 8 p.m., *Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center*

**Sat., Dec. 7** – Five Places of Christmas, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Kauffman Museum offers free admission (including the special exhibit “K is for Kansas”), refreshments, and sale items in the museum store. Bethel College Women’s Association will have holiday food and gift items for sale in Luyken Fine Arts Center.

**Sun., Dec. 8 –** 34th annual Lighting of the Green at Bethel College, 8 p.m.

**Hesston College Music and Theatre** will present a Christmas performance, "Still, Small Voice," on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. in Hesston Mennonite Church. The concert is free and open to the public.