**First Mennonite Church of Christian**

**Organist – Bev Hasan, Worship Leader – Lurline Wiens, Song Leader – Gin Niehage**

**February 26, 2023**

**Gathering and Praising**

Prelude

Welcome

Announcements

Lenten Reading – The Approaching Darkness Rita Stucky

Call to Worship

Leader: The dust that shapes the journey, the cross that guides it, the color that surrounds it, the light that fades through it, the Word that foretells it, the wilderness that invites it--

**People: this is Lent, and into its wilderness God calls us.**

Leader: Come, friends, Christ is heading for Jerusalem.

Morning Prayer

*\*Hymn – “What Wondrous Love is This” VT #564*

Scripture – Luke 4:18

Special Music – Sam Shilts

Offering (put your offering in the plate at the back of the church)

Offertory Prayer

**Receiving God’s Word**

STEPSMC Stories Austin Regier

 Alyssa Pollman

 Chelsea Bell

Hymn – “For We Are Strangers no More” VT #409

**Sharing with One Another**

Sharing Joys and Prayer Requests

Prayer of the Church

**Going in God’s Name**

*\*Closing Hymn –“My Faith Looks Up to Thee” HWB #565*

*\*Benediction*

*\*Postlude*

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

Pastor Pete Emery

Pastor Pete’s email: fmcc.pastorpete@gmail.com

Pastor Pete’s Cell Phone: 785-577-1447

Pastor’s office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm

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



**First Mennonite Church of Christian**

**Moundridge, KS**

**A welcoming Community of Christians for Peace**

**February 26, 2023**

**PRAYER PLACES/JOYOUS JOURNEYS**

**Wilbur Voth** passed away Tuesday, February 21. Pray for Wilbur’s family as they journey through this stage of life.

**Andy Storer** passed away Tuesday, February 21. Pray for Andy’s family as they deal with the loss of a son, a brother, and uncle and a friend.

**Mary Kathryn Stucky** has moved into room 615A. Mary Kathryn still loves cards. Send her a card of well wishes.

**Pray** for Sheryl and Russ Stucky. Sheryl continues on Hospice.

**Prayers** for Bev and Joe Zerger.

**Pray** forCaryl and Bob Tieszen. Caryl’s sister, Anita Rakestraw passed away Sunday, February 19.

**Pray** Michelle Tieszen. She is struggling again with health issues.

**Prayers** for all the victims of the blizzard and bitter cold areas of the United States.

**Pray** **for peace:** For a peaceful heart, a peaceful mind, war torn victims, shooting victim…peace.

**May your mornings bring joy and your evenings bring peace and may your troubles grow less as your blessings increase!**

If you have prayer requests or items of joy, contact one of the Care Team members so we can add those requests as needed. Members are: Pat Krehbiel, Dwight Goering or Cheri Kaufman.

Opportunities

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

 10:30: Worship Service

**March 5:** Karen Ratzlaff is the speaker

**March 8:** Worship team, 9:30 am

**March 12:** Day Light Savings time begins. (Spring forward!)

 SMCHA meeting in our church in the afternoon

**March 22:** Deacons, 1:30 pm

 Church Board, 7:30 pm

**April 6:** Maundy Thursday service

**April 9:** EASTER & Easter Sunrise Service

**April 14 & 15:** KS MCC Sale in Hutchinson, KS

**Sunday, March 5: Pianist – Lu Goering, Worship Leader – Pat Goering, Special Music – New Hymn, Speaker – Karen Ratzlaff**

The world is too dangerous to live in…not because of the people who do evil, but because of the people who sit and let it happen.

                                                         - Albert Einstein

**Announcements**

**Purple Ribbon:** You were handed a purple ribbon this morning before the service. Color is a powerful element. Color reminds us, it triggers memory and it even evokes emotion. So Why Purple for Lent? The short answer is: 1. Purple is the color of royalty and reminds us of Jesus’s sovereignty, 2. Purple symbolizes mourning & suffering as well as sin and confession. Use the ribbon to help remind you of Jesus sovereignty and pain and suffering this Lent season.

**Visitation for Wilbur Voth** will be at Moundridge Funeral Home from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday February 26th (this afternoon).   Burial at FMCC cemetery will be at 9:45 a.m. Monday Feb. 27th, with a memorial service and luncheon to follow at 11:00 a.m.

**Funeral services for Andy Storer** will be held at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at First Mennonite Church of Christian. Burial will follow at Mound Township Cemetery. Friends may pay their respects from 3:30 to 8:00 p.m. Monday, February 27 at Moundridge Funeral Home with family present from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

**Song Leader,** we have had a song leader now for a couple of months and the Worship Team would like some feedback as whether you would like to see this continue or not. Please let someone on the Worship Team know if you are okay stopping it or if you would like to continue having a song leader. Worship Team members are, Gin Niehage, Caryl Tieszen, Bev Hasan and Lurline.

**The January 12, 1888**, blizzard will be the focus for Lois Preheim, author and educator, who will be the speaker at the annual meeting of the Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association. Her book, “Trailing the Schoolchildren’s Blizzard” chronicles experiences of families living in ten locations along the storm’s route extending from Canada down through the United States. Dr. Preheim has degrees from Freeman Junior College, the University of Nebraska and Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary. She is a retired kindergarten-twelve principal having taught pre-school through college age students. Currently she resides in Newton, Kansas. The annual meeting will be held on March 12, 2023, at 2:30 at the First Mennonite Church of Christian in Moundridge.

**Men and Boys Retreat**, March 31-April 2 - Come to Camp

Mennoscah for this long-standing, guys-only retreat! Enjoy time

fishing, canoeing, worshiping, sitting by the fire, or visiting with friends.

The official beginning to the weekend is Saturday morning, but many

arrive on Friday**. There will be a variety show Saturday evening and a worship service on Sunday morning**. Meals can be purchased for Saturday night, Sunday morning and lunch. Registration and payment will take place upon arrival. For more information contact Kevin Neufeld at 316-322-5515, or go to

https://www.campmennoscah.org/vnews/display.v/ART/5a95be51560

23.

**MCC Central States Annual Meeting, Saturday, March 4, 1-3 p.m.**you are invited to hear from MCC SALT alum Jason Schmidt and current IVEP participant Naomi Kwanza share about their MCC experiences. Naomi, from Tanzania is working at Jason’s Grazing Plains Farm in rural Kansas acquiring skills for making cheese and other dairy products to use back in her home country. Catch up with MCC Central States staff, find out about work happening across the region, check out the MCC building progress and enjoy some Grazing Plains cheese! Please RSVP to tinaschrag@mcc.org if you plan to attend. Thanks!

Bethel College announcements are on the south bulletin board.

**New in the Library:**

“The Fog of Faith” – Dr. Leona Stucky

“Blessings Flow” – Pamela Graf Short & Gwen M. Stamm