

SEEKING GOD'S WAYS

As we seek God's way, we move
from a sense that "we" and "ours"
have special standing
to the knowledge that ALL
are equally part of God's kingdom





Hutterthal Mennonite Church

Christ Centered – Living, Relating, Serving

Sunday, March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Lent

9:45 a.m.

Prelude

Call to Worship and Prayer

*Gathering and Praising

Could it be that God is Singing VT #42

We are People of God's Peace VT #797

Scripture Reading

Psalm 32, Pew Bible p. 296

Sharing Time and Prayer

Children's Time

Special Music

Chain Breaker

Lenten Prayer of Confession

Scripture Reading

Luke 15: 1-2, 11-32 Pew Bible p. 552

Message

"From Exceptionalism to Inclusion"

Offering Prayer

Responding and Sending

Far, Far Away/I Will Arise VT #300

New Earth, Heaven's New VT #377

*Benediction

Postlude

*please stand if you are able

HMC Service may be viewed on our web-page:

www.HMCFreeman.org

Call to Worship:

Leader: Together we seek the way of God,

People: rejoicing that we are new creations in Christ.

Leader: From a human point of view, we demand what is
ours,

People: but through Jesus we learn that all share in God's inheritance.

Leader: Let us join God's feast,

People: where all celebrate together.

All: Let us live out God's way of inclusion.

Lenten Prayer of Confession:

(adapted from Isaiah 55)

Leader: Holy One, we seek you while you may be found.

People: We call upon you while you are near.

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, for our thoughts are not
your thoughts and our ways are not your ways.

People: Forgive us if we have thought that we deserve special treatment. Lead us into radical inclusion.

Leader: As we walk with Christ on this Lenten journey, let us
see your way more clearly.

All: and follow your way more faithfully.

TODAY March 27, 9:45 am Fourth Sunday of Lent

Accompanist: Amy Hofer Vetch

Worship Leader: Amanda Mettler

Scripture Reader: Matt Tschetter

Song Leader: Les Rensink

Children's Time: Pastor Randall

Puppeteers: Cole Hofer & Jaden Thomas

Puppets: Louis & Penny

Special Music: performed by Zach Williams

arranged by LeRoy and Kathy Pullman

Message: Pastor Randall

Coffee Time: John and Monica Clem

Children's Sunday School following the service

Adult Sunday School following coffee time

NEXT SUNDAY April 3, 9:45 am Fifth Sunday of Lent

Accompanist: Paige Hofer

Worship Leader: Jaden Thomas

Song Leader: Marj Hofer

Special Music: arranged by Les and Mary Rensink

Children's Time: Cole Hofer, Jaden Thomas, & Pastor Randall

Message: Pastor Randall

Coffee Time: Brandon and Kylea Waltner

Children's Sunday School following the service

Adult Sunday School following coffee time

Congregational Ministries Project for March: Soap or Hygiene Kit

Congregational Ministries Project for April: Cash for MCC Relief sale

Pancake Breakfast and Work Night on April 5th

Calendar

March 30: 7 pm - MCUSA information meeting with Sharon Waltner

April 5: 4 pm - HMC work night

April 6: 7 pm - MCUSA delegate assembly congregational meeting

April 10-13: 7 pm - Holy Week Services at Salem Mennonite Church

April 14: 7 pm - HMC Maundy Thursday Service

April 20: 8 pm - HMC Board meeting

May 27-30: MC USA Special Delegate Assembly In Kansas City

HMC Preparations for MCUSA Special Delegate Assembly:

On Wednesday, March 30, at 7 pm in the HMC fellowship hall, our congregation is having an informational meeting with Sharon Waltner, the chair of CPMC's Faith, Life, and Procedures Team. Sharon will spend the majority of our time together explaining the resolutions that are coming to the MCUSA delegate assembly in May so that we, as a congregation, can use that information to discuss the resolutions further and offer guidance to the two delegates that our church is sending to Kansas City. The focus of the first meeting will be information only with open time for clarifying questions about the resolutions and their implications for church and conference.

On the following Wednesday, April 6, at 7 pm in the HMC fellowship hall, our congregation will have another meeting, a time of discussion and sharing, in which all who attend will have the chance to share their thoughts, concerns, and opinions about the resolutions. The comments offered will give the church board and the two delegates going to Kansas City a better sense of where our church is with the resolutions. If you are interested in reading or reviewing the resolutions, you can view them at <http://www.centralplainsmc.org/mc-usa-delegate-resources.html>

If you are interested in serving as a delegate at the special delegate assembly on May 27-30, please contact Todd Koerner.

Central Plains Mennonite Conference is hosting a webinar on the Special Delegate Assembly with Glen Guyton, Executive Director of MCUSA, on April 7 at 7:00 p.m. While all conference leaders and MCUSA delegates are encouraged to register, registration is open to anyone who would like to attend the webinar. Please follow this link to register for the webinar on April 7:

<http://www.centralplainsmc.org/glen-guyton-webinar.html>.

“After We’re Gone: Disabilities and Estate Planning” webinar: Caring for someone who is dependent due to a significant disability is a major responsibility. Making provisions for that person’s physical, emotional and financial well-being after the death of a parent or caregiver can be complex and confusing. Anabaptist Disabilities Network is partnering with Everence to host a webinar about estate planning for families with a dependent disabled family member. “After We’re Gone: Disabilities and Estate Planning” will take place **Thursday, March 31 at 1 and 7 p.m. Central Time.**

For more information and to register, go to:

<https://www.anabaptistdisabilitiesnetwork.org/Resources/Webinars/Pages/After-We're-Gone.aspx>.

MCC response in Ukraine: MCC continues to be in communication with our program partners, many of whom have reduced capacity because of the conflict. Currently, partners are responding in some regions as they are able with supplies they can secure. This includes distributing food, blankets, medications and fuel as well as other emergency supplies. The changing situations in the various cities and regions in Ukraine where there is conflict makes this work difficult and at times dangerous. MCC will continue to determine how it can support short-term needs. However, MCC’s strength continues to be mid and long-term disaster response and we are working to formulate these plans for Ukraine. MCC has been working in Ukraine for 100 years and will continue to serve in Ukraine long after the crisis disappears from the news cycle. Donate today to support these efforts at mcc.org/ukraine

Rural Revival to meet March 28: The Rural Revival monthly meeting will be at 8 pm in the Freeman Public Library, downtown Freeman

Freeman Network for Justice and Peace is sponsoring a program Saturday, April 2, 7:30 p.m. at the historic Bethel Church at the Heritage Hall Museum & Archives complex. Three local people, Everett Waltner, Susan Schrag, and Norman Hofer, will share stories of local conscientious objectors during World War I. Before and after this program, the Voices of Conscience exhibit on display in the Bethel Church from the Kauffman Museum in North Newton, Kansas, can be explored. There is no admission but donations are encouraged.

Et Cetera Shoppe Board of Directors Looking for Volunteers

Did you know that Et Cetera Shoppe is overseen by a wonderful group of volunteers who serve on our Board of Directors? This group helps to oversee everything going on at the shop, and we couldn't do it without them! Our current board consists of Brent Brockmueller, Gloria Dowden, Marlene Herman, Dolores Hernandez, Bekka Kramer, Paul Ortman, Shirley Ries, Jenny Tschetter, and Carolyn Waltner. Chris Eisenbeis serves as our financial manager. If you're a volunteer OR a frequent customer, you probably have the insight needed to be a great Et Cetera Shoppe board member. Interested in helping the store in this way? Let Kris Carlson or Anita Eisenbeis know at 925-7098!

Join the MCC Thrifty 50 Challenge! 50 years ago the first MCC thrift shop opened and now there are 85 shops that provide millions of dollars each year for MCC's work at home and around the world. To celebrate, we're inviting you to sign up for the [Thrifty 50 Challenge](#) to get one practical challenge sent to your inbox and have a chance to win a \$25 MCC Thrift gift card every week. Visit thrift.mcc.org to find a shop near you and learn more about MCC Thrift!

Prayer Requests and Praises:

- Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Monika Neufeld, a nurse who is serving as an intern with CASAS (a program of *Seminario Anabautista Latinoamericano*, SEMILLA) in Guatemala. Pray for her as she works with other medical staff at a rural clinic to respond to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Open our hearts and minds so that we see Your reflection in the face of every person on this earth. Guide us to fully grasp that disability and difference never lessen a person's need for love, friendship, belonging, respect, and for the opportunity to work, contribute, and lead. Let prejudice, stigma, fear, and presumptions never interfere with our ceaseless efforts to assure that each and every person is able to feel the embrace of family, community, and God.
- Lord God, we pray for peace in Ukraine. We pray for your love and sustaining hand for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, including the 20 Mennonite Brethren congregations who are providing aid for their neighbors: shelter in church buildings, food and spiritual comfort. We pray too for the people and leaders of Russia because as followers of Jesus, we do not regard any human as an enemy.

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