

**Wherever you are in life's journey and your spiritual journey,  
you are welcome here, where together we share God's love.**

**SOUTHERN HILLS MENNONITE CHURCH**  
511 SE 37th Street, P.O Box 5067, Topeka, KS 66605-0067  
785-266-9403 [Church@SouthernHillsMC.org](mailto:Church@SouthernHillsMC.org)

January 8, 2017

61:2

**9:20 a.m. - GATHERING FOR WORSHIP** - Please enter the sanctuary quietly to pray, write a message of gratitude or prayer request on a card, light a candle, and spend time in reflection as you listen to the prelude.

Prelude: "Sweet Songs" Smith  
"Vocalise" Paxton  
"Shall We Gather" Moore

**9:30 a.m. - WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

Introduction of Guests (Please fill out the welcome pads.)

Announcements

\*Passing the Peace

\*Musical Response

\*Call to Worship

\*Invocation

\*Hymn: "I sing with exultation" HWB 438 (blue)

Invitation to the Children "Come and see" (HWB 20) Screen

Time with the Children Questions for Pastor Heidi

Song: "Open now thy gates of beauty" HWB 19 (blue)  
(Children in Kindergarten and younger may go to the nursery during the song.)

Offertory Prayer

Presenting our Offerings and MCC "My Coins Count" Offerings

Offertory: "Peace Like A Dove" Broughton  
(Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plates.)

Sharing

Prayer

Hymn: "Will you come and follow me" STS 39 (purple)

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 42:1-9

New Testament Reading Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon: "Beloved and Baptized" Heidi Regier Kreider

\*Hymn: "Wade in the water" HWB 446 (blue)

\*Closing Reading: HWB 776

\*Organ Response

\*Postlude: "Postlude in D-flat" Flotow

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\*Please stand as you are able.

Hearing assist devices & large print bulletins are available from the ushers.

STJ = Sing the Journey (green); STS = Sing the Story (purple)

HWB = Hymnal: A Worship Book (blue)

|                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Pastor: Roger Neufeld Smith         | Worship Leader:              |
| Associate Pastor:                   | Raylene Hinz-Penner          |
| Cynthia Neufeld Smith               | Organist: Michelle Shima     |
| Director of Youth and Young Adults: | Ushers: Joe & Nancy Schrag   |
| Lois Grummert                       | Greeters: Jerry & Jené Yoder |

**10:30 a.m. – Coffee and Conversation** at the Holy Grounds Café.

**10:45 a.m. – Sunday School classes for all ages.**

THIS WEEK

Monday, 7 p.m. – Friendship Circle organizational meeting, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. – Women's and Men's Bible study groups

Thursday, 6 p.m. – Church Council meeting

NEXT SUNDAY

**9:30 a.m. – Worship Service** –Ray Robinson will preach. Zach Shima will lead the service.

**10:30 a.m. – Coffee and Conversation** at the Holy Grounds Café.

**10:45 a.m. – Sunday School classes for all ages.**

CLEANING SCHEDULE (New/Old):

Jan 14 – Hershberger (N), Goering (0)

Jan 21 – Gingerich (N), Kilmer (0)

Jan 28 – Cherveney (N), Strahm (0)

LAST SUNDAY MORNING

**Attendance:** 65 **Visitors:** Will Kubic; Mike & Jodi Heim & Family (Jordan, Delaney, Logan, Presley, Mackenzie); Mary Nell Draper; Anthony, Kara, Isaac & Zachary; Richard & Erin Sack

ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS

- Topeka Rescue Mission January 2017 Report

- Christmas letter from Greg & Nancy Parker

- Hesston College Training Events in February

**Southern Hills Mennonite Church Mission Statement** (from the church constitution): *The purpose of this congregation shall be to live by and promote, through worship, study, giving and witness, the heritage of the Anabaptist-Mennonite expression of the Christian faith and life in contemporary form. We believe this to mean that a congregation is to be a body of Christians committed to the Lordship of Christ, who, by the power of the Holy Spirit, seek to live lives of discipleship, to practice the ethic of love and nonresistance in all human relationships, and to adhere to the historic peace position.*

*Southern Hills Bulletin Insert 1/8/17*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Heidi Regier Kreider**, Western District Conference Minister, is with us today for the worship service and Sunday School hour. During the Sunday School hour, she will remain in the sanctuary for the adult issues class to give us an update on the Western District Conference activities and will leave time for questions and conversation.

**The "My Coins Count" offering is beginning today** and will be collected every Sunday by the children until the MCC sale in April. If you care to match the total collected on a given Sunday please contact Judy Krehbiel. Our total for 2016 was \$1200.01. Let's see if we can exceed that amount this year. Thank you so much!

**Every ministry of Southern Hills Mennonite Church is welcome to submit an annual report** of your work from this past year. This is your opportunity to tell the church what you've been doing and invite others to get involved. Reports were **due in the church office last Sunday (Jan. 1)**. However, if you missed the deadline, please contact the church office immediately!

SHMC officers and boards (except the church treasurer) were to submit their **annual reports** to the church office by January 3. However, if you missed the deadline, please contact the church office immediately!

**Annual Congregational Meeting and Youth Chili Feed** - The SHMC 2017 Annual Meeting will be held on January 29th in the Fellowship Hall following the Sunday morning services. A chili feed supporting the youth fund will precede the meeting. The youth fund allows the youth to have many learning experiences that connect them with each other and the world. Please plan to attend the annual meeting and support our youth with a meal.

**A Friendship Circle organizational meeting** will be held on **Monday, January 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall**. All ladies are welcome and the quilt will be in the frame and ready to begin stitching.

**Pastors' Whereabouts:** The pastors are on their sabbatical trip to Israel/Palestine/Jordan with the Bethel/Tabor College interterm group. Randall Schmidt is also on the trip. During their absence you may direct any personal concerns to Sharon Peters or the other Diaconate members: Sue Ann Funk, Rod Garman, and Kevin Goering. You may send items for the bulletin to Sue Ann Funk or Rebekah in the office.

**WANTED:** Cars, Trucks, Tractors, Farm Equipment (old and new) and **large** items of value for the Kansas MCC Sale. These are tax deductible donations that can benefit you as well as MCC. If you have items you don't know what to do with, PLEASE consider donating them to the Kansas MCC Sale. We take your donations seriously and will make every effort possible to help it bring a good price. Call Jerry Toews 620-367-8257 for info and details.

### COMING EVENTS

- January 16 – Church office closed (MLK Holiday)  
7 p.m. – Diaconate meeting
- January 18, 1:30-3:30 p.m. – JUMP team meeting (library)
- January 29, 1:00 p.m. – Annual Congregational Meeting

### Joys shared last Sunday:

- Glenna Lowry's accompaniment and the musical talent of Isaac, Kara & Zachary Swartzendruber
- Peter & Taylor Zemansky are to welcome a baby this summer. Peter is the son of Ellen Kroeker & Gil Zemansky.

### Last Sunday, Prayer was offered for:

- Bradley Bowersox who is dealing with health issues
- Safe travel for Roger & Cynthia during their sabbatical
- Staff and students on all levels as a new semester begins
- Our sister church, Monte Horeb and the church plant Iglesia Cristiana Menonita Camino Nuevo

### WIDER NEWS AND NOTES

**Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Request:** Akiko Aratani and Ray Epp, long-term associates with Mennonite Mission Network in Japan, have asked SOOP for help at Menno Village, an agricultural initiative of Mennonite churches in Hokkaido. Pray for volunteers to help with building projects and with farm work while enjoying cultural experiences.

**MENNONITE CHURCH USA: Registration for "Beyond Buried Treasure: Turning Hidden Resources into Assets"** is now open. This second joint MHS Mennonite Health Assembly and Mennonite Education Agency Education Leaders Gathering takes place March 9-12 in Jacksonville, Florida. For more information or to register, visit [mhaelgconference.wordpress.com](http://mhaelgconference.wordpress.com).