

**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)

February 26, 2017

61:9

**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: "The God of Abraham Praise" Proulx  
"Blessed Jesus, At Your Word" Miller  
"Lift Up the Gates Eternal" Diemer

**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 (from Psalm 122)

LEADER: I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

**PEOPLE: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.  
We gather with gladness in God's house.**

LEADER: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
"May they prosper who love you.  
Peace be within your walls,  
And security within your towers."

**PEOPLE: We gather to pray with our words and our lives  
that all of God's children  
may know peace and economic security.**

LEADER: For the sake of my relatives and friends  
I say, "Peace be within you."  
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God  
I will seek your good.

**PEOPLE: We gather in the name of God, who claims us all as family,  
to speak out and seek peace and justice  
for the sake of all God's children.**

\*Invocation

\*Hymn: "For the healing of the nations" HWB 367 (blue)

Invitation to the Children: "Jesus loves the little children" Screen  
Time with the Children Lavina Wall & Diana Hershberger

MCC "My Coins Count" Offering

Song: "Make me a channel of your peace" STJ 56 (green)  
*(Children in Kindergarten and younger may go to the nursery during the song.)*

Presenting our Offerings

Offertory Prayer

Offertory: "There is a balm in Gilead" Clemens  
*(Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plates.)*

Sharing and Prayer

Hymn: "My life flows on" HWB 580 (blue)

Sermon: "Reflections from the Jerusalem Seminar" Randall Schmidt

\*Hymn: "Dona nobis pacem" HWB 346 (blue)

\*Benediction

\*Organ Response

\*Postlude: "Shalom, Chaverim" Diemer

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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, Worship Leader:<br>Roger Neufeld Smith       | Director of Youth and Young Adults:<br>Lois Grummert |
| Associate Pastor, Organist:<br>Cynthia Neufeld Smith | Ushers: Roger & Judy Krehbiel                        |
| Nursery Helper: Zoe Burkholder                       | Greeters: Steve & Glenna Lowry                       |

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

**10:45 a.m. – Sunday School classes for all ages.** Report on Jerusalem Seminar by Randall Schmidt and Cynthia and Roger in the sanctuary. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**11:45 a.m. – Town Hall Meeting** on church membership. Lunch on your own.

THIS WEEK

Monday, 7 p.m. - Diaconate meeting

Tuesday, 6:15 p.m. – Taco Tuesday (NetReach)

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

5:30 p.m. – Trustees meeting

6:45 p.m. – Adult Choir Rehearsal – All singers welcome!

Thursday, 9-11 a.m. – Senior Coffee Fellowship

Saturday, 1-2 p.m. – Green and Clean Swap Meet

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Worship Service – First Sunday in Lent. Roger will preach.

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

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

12:00 p.m. – Farewell Potluck dinner for DeWayne and Elvera Dirks

**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 2/26/17*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The "My Coins Count" offering** is being 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 \$1,200.01. Let's see if we can exceed that amount this year. Thank you so much!

Everyone is invited to the **Town Hall** meeting today, **Feb. 26**, following Sunday School. **This is an important meeting for all attendees, members and non-members alike.** The discussion will center on what church membership means and whether it is necessary for participation on committees and boards. No decisions will be made, but Council wants to hear what attendees are thinking. We will try to keep the meeting to an hour in length. **Lunch will not be provided**, but you are welcome to bring lunch or a snack for yourself if you wish. **Please attend! Your ideas are welcome.**

Join us in honoring DeWayne and Elvera Dirks' service to Southern Hills and wish them well as they begin their next chapter of life in North Newton with a **potluck dinner on Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup> after Sunday school.** Bring food to share and your own table service.

DeWayne Dirks has invited the Women's Circle and other SHMC friends to sell concessions at the Dirks' auction on March 18 from 8:30 until about 2ish. We need volunteers to prepare some items ahead, help organize, work a shift or two on the day of the sale, and probably some other things we don't know about yet. **We will have a QUICK meeting in the Women's Sunday School classroom immediately following worship both this Sunday morning and next Sunday morning to touch base.** There will also be sign up sheets in the foyer. **If you would like to be involved in some way for preparation and/or the day of the sale, please email [cseals57@gmail.com](mailto:cseals57@gmail.com).**

The Board of Education would like to once again offer the **Best Books Class** as an adult option if there is enough interest. The plan is to choose a book to discuss over several class sessions. Depending on how long we think we should take on the first book, another book or books could then be discussed. We hope that someone familiar with the book would lead the discussion. We would like to plan an **organizational meeting next Sunday during the Sunday School hour.** Please be thinking of a book or books that you would like to see the class discuss. Even better if you would lead the discussion of the book you suggest but that is not mandatory.

### COMING EVENTS

March 5 – Farewell Potluck Dinner for DeWayne and Elvera Dirks  
March 5 & 12 – KMRS Fellowship Meals  
April 7 & 8 – Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale  
April 13 – Maundy Thursday service  
April 16, 9:30 a.m. – Easter Sunday breakfast  
April 16, 10:30 a.m. – Easter Worship Service

#### NURSERY SCHEDULE:

Mar 5 – Kaity Shima  
Mar – 12 Brooke Slipke  
Mar 19 – Zaka Blocker

#### CLEANING SCHEDULE (New/Old):

Mar 4 – Burkholder/Oesch (N), Schmidt (O)  
Mar 11 – Funk (N), Voth (O)  
Mar 18 – Hershberger (N), Goering (O)

### ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS

- Hymn Sing & Dessert Auction Fundraiser for Camp Mennoscah, Feb. 26
- 2017 Camp Mennoscah Retreat & Summer Camp Information (& brochures)
- letter from The Camp Mennoscah staff... needing summer staff & volunteers
- Camp Mennoscah Retirees Relaxation Retreat, April 24-26
- Topeka Rescue Mission February Report
- HI-Crest NIA Newsletter
- Volunteer Literacy Tutor Training Workshop, March 25 & April 1
- photo of Cooper Garman in "The Seaman Clipper" (2-16-17)
- photo of Janson Garman in The Capital-Journal
- Minister Ray Robinson (last Sunday's guest preacher) – featured in The Capital Journal
- Auction at DeWayne & Elvera Dirks' home, March 18, 9:30 a.m.

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

#### **Last Sunday we prayed for:**

- people who are hungry
- children who endure difficult home situations and teachers who reach out to them
- Jim Kilmer who has low hemoglobin and internal bleeding
- the family of the Jackson Heights high school student who died in a car accident
- Ryan Schmidt, who sustained a head injury in a fall
- Erna Nichol, with ongoing cancer treatment
- Carol Ingenthron's friend, Don, who had a heart attack
- DeWayne and Elvera Dirks as they prepare to move to Kidron-Bethel
- Roger's family as they plan to move their mother to assisted living

### WIDER NEWS AND NOTES

**Building peace.** In Plateau State, Nigeria, 900 students in 34 peace clubs have been trained and equipped with basic peacebuilding skills and are applying these skills in their lives. All schools with active peace clubs are reporting fewer incidences of bullying and discipline problems.