

**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

March 26, 2017

61:13

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: "Variations on 'Hail to Thee My Jesus, Holy'" J.S.Bach

9:30 a.m. - WELCOME TO WORSHIP – FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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

Announcements

*Passing the Peace

*Musical Response

*Call to Worship

Back of Bulletin

*Invocation

*Hymn: "Open my eyes, that I may see"

HWB 517 (blue)

Invitation to the Children: "Jesus loves the little children"

Screen

Time with the Children

Phyllis Slipke

MCC "My Coins Count" Offering

Song: "Open my eyes" STS 65 (purple)

(Children in Kindergarten and younger may go to the nursery during the song.)

Presenting our Offerings

Offertory Prayer

Offertory: "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" J.S.Bach

(Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plates.)

Sharing and Prayer

Response: "You are all we have" Screen/STJ 29 (green)

Old Testament Reading

I Samuel 16:1-13

New Testament Reading

John 9:1-41

Sermon: "Recognizing Inconvenient Truth"

Roger

*Hymn: "Be thou my vision" HWB 545 (blue)
 (stanzas 1, 2, 5)

*Benediction

*Organ Response

*Postlude: "In Thee is Gladness" J.S.Bach

**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 Leaders: Karen Burkholder and Kaitlyn Shima
Associate Pastor, Organist: Cynthia Neufeld Smith	Nursery Helper: Fayth Boucher
Director of Youth and Young Adults: Lois Grummert	Ushers: Randy & Rachel Schmidt
	Greeters: Steve & Glenna Lowry

MUSIC NOTE: The prelude, offertory, and postlude are all by J.S.Bach in honor of his birthday this past week.

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

10:45 a.m. – Sunday School classes for all ages. The new "Best Books" adult Sunday School class will meet in room 100 (the cry room.). Duane Goossen will give a update on the Kansas legislature in the Topics Class in the sanctuary. Everyone is welcome.

THIS WEEK

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

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

6:45 p.m. - Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, 9-11 a.m. – Senior Coffee Fellowship with guests from Cornerstone Community Church

7:00 p.m. – Worship Committee meeting

Friday, 7 p.m. – Baby Shower for Megan and Daniel Klaassen

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. – Girl Scout event (fellowship hall)

1-2 p.m. – Green and Clean swap meet

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Worship Service – Fifth Sunday in Lent. The youth will help 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

COMING EVENTS

April 7 & 8 – Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale

April 13, 6:30 p.m. – Maundy Thursday service

April 16, 9:30 a.m. – Easter breakfast;

10:30 a.m. – Easter Worship Service

NURSERY SCHEDULE: CLEANING SCHEDULE (New/Old):

Apr 2 – Gretchen Morelinton Apr 1 – Dale Burkholder (N), Strahm (O)

Apr 9 – Chantse Boucher Apr 8 – Hershberger Group (N&O)

Apr 16 – Anna Goering Apr 15 – Yoder (N), Keckeisen (O)

LAST SUNDAY MORNING

Attendance: 73

Visitors: Esther & Emmeline Walker, Emily Yang

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 3/26/17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Update on **"My Coins Count" offering**--Our total as of March 19 is \$898.41. We still need \$301.60 to meet our goal of \$1200.01. We have two Sundays left--today and next Sunday. We still would welcome anyone interested in matching either Sunday. Please contact Judy Krehbiel if interested. Thanks to all of you who have contributed to this MCC event.

There are many good options for adult Sunday School today:

- The **Best Books Class** will meet today to begin discussion of the book *The Muslim Next Door* by Sumbul Ali-Karamali. The class will meet in the cry room unless the group gets too large, in which case we may move to the fellowship hall. If anyone wants to join the class, either for the duration or just for this book, please talk with Mike Peters. Mike will purchase books for the class. They should cost about \$17 each, depending on available discounts. Doug Penner will lead the class discussions.
- Duane Goossen will report on recent developments in the Kansas Legislature in the Topics Sunday School class in the sanctuary.
- The Women's Class is reading a book called "Desperate Women of the Bible."
- The Adult Bible Study will continue their discussion of God's love.

Everyone is invited to a **baby shower for Megan and Daniel Klaassen this coming Friday**, March 31 at 7 p.m. at the church. PLEASE NOTE: If you use the registry at Babies R Us and/or Target, please note the correct spelling of Klaassen.

Adult Painting Circle will meet March 29 & April 12 at Topeka Art Guild, 2-4 p.m.

Sign-up sheets for volunteering at the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale are located in the South Foyer. Join the many volunteers from churches across Kansas on April 7 & 8 who will help raise funds for Mennonite Central Committee. This includes baking pies and zwiebach, serving at the various food venues, and clerking/monitoring a variety of activities, including Quilter's Corner, Ten Thousand Villages, Plants, and more. Thanks so much for considering this opportunity to help raise funds for MCC and sign up for a specific time and activity.

Our recent Town Hall Meeting and subsequent discussions of the meaning of membership at Southern Hills has prompted several people to **request membership at SHMC. If you would also be interested, please contact Roger via email (Roger@SouthernHillsMC.org), phone or personal conversation.**

Care package boxes for current college students and our VSer will be in the main foyer for the next three Sundays. We will be sending out 13 boxes this year, to Kate Cherveney, Jayce Yoder, Sophia Minder, Tyler Shima, and Randall Schmidt (Bethel); Keaton Young and Jevin Yoder, (KSU, internship this semester in Wichita); Tracey Funk (KU); Brenner and Max Burkholder, (Goshen); Susanna Martinez (Stanford); Genevieve Akins (St. Olaf, study abroad in Northern Ireland this semester) and Elsa Goossen, (MVS in Alamosa, CO). Suggested items are: small packages of trail mix, individual coffee, tea, or drink mixes, small packs of cookies or chips, granola/protein bars, gift cards to Mojo's (Bethel), Java Junction (Goshen), Milagros Coffee (Alamosa); Sonic, etc.; or straight up cash. The boxes will be sealed on April 16th and sent off to their destinations. Contact Lila Bartel, Lori Oesch, or Doug Penner for more information.

Thank you to everyone who donated items, time, or both, to make the concession stand at the Dirks' sale a huge success. It was great to have so many Southern Hills friends help with the sale and also be there in support of Elvera and DeWayne. **The Dirks' new address is: 9 Lakewood Circle, North Newton, KS 67117. New telephone number: 316-333-1837.**

Please mark **Saturday morning, May 6th, 2017** on your calendars. It will be the **church's workday**. We will start at 9:00 in the morning and work on things until around noon. Even if you can only come for an hour, please come out and have some fun with us. There will be things for everyone to do so don't be shy, come and join us. It is a great time to work together and to get some small projects completed on our meeting house.

ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS

- Kansas City Star article (Emilie Doerksen is quoted)
- Janson and Cooper Garman featured in "All-City swim team" article (by Topeka Capital-Journal)
- Jewish and Palestinian Voices for Peace event, April 19, Manhattan
- "Creation in Crisis – *climate change changes everything*," April 26
- Temple Beth Shalom's Annual Blintze Brunch, April 30
- Peace Camp 2017, July 17-21 (registration forms on foyer table)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Last Sunday we prayed for:

- Cynthia as she traveled to Ohio to spend time with her family.
- DeWayne and Elvera Dirks, as they make their move to North Newton, KS.
- Sherrell and Larry Conklin, who have some persistent household issues.
- Erna Nichol as she continues to receive cancer treatments.
- the Bethel College Choir, as they travel north for the spring choir tour.
- Heidi Braun's friend, who is struggling with health and related issues.

We gave thanks:

- for successful cancer surgery for Vicki Penner's mother, Ruth.
- for Michael Coker's acceptance into pharmacy school in Chicago.

WIDER NEWS AND NOTES

Western District Conference Prayer Request: Pray for God's guidance and wisdom for the WDC Ministerial Leadership Commission as they meet this Friday.