

**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

April 30, 2017

61:18

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: "Voluntary in A minor" Trevor
 "Andante Religioso" Thome
 "Take My Life and Let it Be" Malan

9:30 a.m. - WELCOME TO WORSHIP – MCC SUNDAY

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

Announcements

*Passing the Peace

*Musical Response

*Call to Worship Shuman

LEADER: God has gathered us here with that community called faith:

**PEOPLE: where the hungry are fed,
and the thirsty drink lifegiving water.**

LEADER: God welcomes us here into that home called grace:

**PEOPLE: where the naked are clothed,
and the stranger is embraced.**

LEADER: God unites us here, sisters and brothers,
in that family called love:

**PEOPLE: where the imprisoned find justice,
and the sick find healing and hope.**

*Invocation

*Hymn: "Lord, whose love in humble service" HWB 369 (blue)

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

Time with the Children Caroline Seals

Song: "Brothers and sisters of mine" HWB 142 (blue)

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

Presenting our Offerings

Offertory Prayer

Offertory: "Open My Eyes" Wilson

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

Sharing and Prayer

Hymn: "The love of God" STJ 44 (green)

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:31-40
 Sermon: "Singing a New Love Song" Michelle Armster

Choir: "Lift your light" McDonald

*Benediction Randall

*Organ Response

*Postlude: "God of Grace" Culli

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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         | Readers: Henry Goering and     |
| Associate Pastor, Worship Leader:   | Phil Hershberger               |
| Cynthia Neufeld Smith               | Nursery Helper: Marcus McAtee  |
| Director of Youth and Young Adults: | Ushers: Jerry & Jené Yoder     |
| Lois Grummert                       | Greeters: Mark & Carla Schmidt |
| Organist: Kathy Rich                |                                |

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

**10:45 a.m. –** Sunday School classes for all ages. **Michelle Armster will share about the work of MCC Central States in the sanctuary.** Everyone is invited to attend. Other adult classes will meet in their usual locations.

THIS WEEK

Monday, 5:30 p.m. – Trustees meeting

7:00 p.m. – Worship Committee meeting

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

Wednesday, 6:45 p.m. - Adult Choir Rehearsal (regular time)

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

Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-noon – Spring Work Day

1-2 p.m. – Green and Clean Swap Meet

NEXT SUNDAY

**9:30 a.m. – Dwight Regier, WDC Youth Coordinator, guest preacher**

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

**10:45 a.m. –** Sunday School classes for all ages. **Dwight Regier will share with youth and the combined adult Sunday School classes** about current trends in youth and young adult ministry in the Western District Conference and elsewhere.

NURSERY SCHEDULE:

May 7 – Zoe Burkholder

May 14 – Kaity Shima

May 21 – Brooke Slipke

CLEANING SCHEDULE (New/Old):

May 6 – Burkholder/Oesch (N), Schmidt (0)

May 13 – Funk (N), Voth (0)

May 20 – Hershberger (N), Goering (0)

LAST SUNDAY MORNING

**Attendance: 78 Visitors: Marvin & Ruth Penner**

**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 4/30/17*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we **welcome Michelle Armster**, Executive Director of Mennonite Central Committee Central States, who will preach about God's call for us to treat others as if they were Jesus. Michelle was an associate pastor for community life at Blossom Hill Mennonite Church in Lancaster, Pa. and has also served as the director of Mennonite Conciliation Services and co-director for the Office on Justice and Peacebuilding for MCC US. Michelle will also speak in the Topics Sunday School class about the work of MCC Central States. Everyone is welcome.

Planning to go to **Camp Mennoscah** this summer? Registrations with the early discount are due by May 1.

This coming **Saturday morning, May 6<sup>th</sup>**, is 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. The trustees would also like to ask any teachers with project ideas to please contact us to see if we can add the project to our list.

The SHMC Church Council has initiated a **visioning process for youth and young adult ministry** in light of the resignation of Lois Grummert as our Directory of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. A Vision Committee is being appointed. To inform our visioning process, the Church Council has invited **Dwight Regier to visit Southern Hills on May 7**. Dwight is the Western District Conference Youth Ministry Team Leader and has had long experience in Mennonite youth ministry. Dwight will preach about "Youth Ministry Today" in worship, speak to a combined class of youth and adults during the Sunday School hour, and then meet with our Vision Committee for lunch. **We encourage all youth and adults to attend.**

For those interesting in **mowing the church property** this year, there is a signup sheet on the bulletin board. Like last year, we have openings every two weeks for someone from the church to mow. The date on the signup sheet is the date by which you need to have the property mowed. You can talk to Jerry Yoder if you have any questions.

**Bible School** is fast approaching – June 5-9. Please help make this successful by registering your children and offering to help. You may fill out a paper form on the office counter or do it on email. Thank you!

**New church directories are now available. Check your church mailbox for your copy or pick one up from the foyer table.**

I am needing help finding our crockpot crock. I have a "Crockpot" brand crockpot with a removable black crock. The one I have now is a "Sunbeam" brand (it states on bottom of crock) and although it looks like the right one, it does not fit and heat up correctly. If you have a Sunbeam brand, can you check to see if our crocks were mixed up. This possibly happened at the auction for Dirks'. Thanks for any help.

- Colette Boucher

**Stamp Out Hunger** on Saturday, May 13, is your chance to help I Care and other food pantries in Topeka by leaving food in your mail box. The food collected in Topeka will be divided between Topeka agencies. I Care volunteers and friends will be working the HiCrest Post Office on this day.

**Follow-up to Nehemiah Action Assembly:** The Mayor has asked that JUMP participants email their city council members, encouraging them to vote for \$500,000 for affordable housing as proposed by the Mayor. See the card on the bulletin board for a sample message.

### COMING EVENTS

May 21, 9:30 a.m. – Teacher Appreciation and Graduate Recognition  
May 24, 7 p.m. – Hesston College Bel Canto Singers in concert here  
May 28 – Memorial Sunday

### ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS

- East Hill Singers present "Manly Men" concert, April 30
- 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Kansas MCC Ride for Relief, May 21
- Vern Graber obituary (Erna Nichol's brother)
- "Digital History Project...", article about Ben Goossen in Bethel College Context publication
- Topeka Capital Journal article about Topeka JUMP Nehemiah Action Assembly

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

**Last Sunday we prayed for:**

- Sherrell Conklin, who will have major medical tests in the next couple of weeks.
- Bradley Bowersox as he continues to struggle with mental illness and addictions.
- Daniel Klaassen's family. Daniel's grandmother died this past week.
- the Nehemiah Action Assembly.

**We gave thanks for:**

- successful surgery for Glenna Lowry. Glenna is recovering at home.
- Sherrell Conklin's return to Southern Hills worship after a time of absence.
- Daniel Gragg's completion of training to be a sheriff's deputy on April 21. Daniel expected to be on the job as a deputy in Shawnee County this week.
- the beautiful world that God created. Evelyn Dillon was especially appreciative having been on a bus tour recently to the US Southwest.

**Updates:**

- Rosemary Hines, mother of Karen Dirks, died on Tuesday, April 4. Karen is the daughter-in-law of DeWayne and Elvera Dirks.
- The Nehemiah Action Assembly was a great success. Check out the article from the Topeka Capital Journal.

## MCC RELIEF KITS

- **NEWBORN KITS:** Judy Gingerich made **12 newborn kits**, which were then assembled by Senior Coffee participants and transported to Newton by the Dixons.
- **RELIEF KITS:** Relief kits provide valuable supplies to families whose lives have been disrupted by war or disaster. 14,507 were shipped last year to Jordan, Syria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Haiti, Honduras, Iraq, Lebanon, Ukraine and Serbia. **The Women's Circle invites everyone to help make relief kits. See the list below of required items.** You might want to partner with someone or work as a group, or you can donate money – please make out checks to SHMC, designated for relief kits. See Elizabeth Unruh if you have questions. We will wrap this up by the end of May.

### Contents (NEW items only, in original packaging)

- 4 large bars bath soap
- 1 plastic bottle shampoo (13–24 oz.; place in resealable plastic bag)
- 4 large bars laundry soap (Fels Naptha®, Sunlight® or Zote® brands)
- 4 adult-size toothbrushes
- 4 new bath towels (medium weight, dark or bright colors)
- 2 wide-tooth combs (6–8 in)
- 1 fingernail clipper(good quality)
- 1 box adhesive bandages(minimum 40 count, assorted)
- 1 package sanitary pads (18–24 count **thin** maxi)

Place contents in a box or bag. They will be re-packed in a new 5-gallon plastic pail with a lid and delivered to the MCC center in North Newton.