

LISTENING

Scripture Jim Jantzen
Joshua 4:1-11, 19-24 (from The Message)
Message Pastor Susan

RESPONDING

*Hymn Lord, I want to be a Christian No. 444
*Benediction Pastor Susan

WELCOME TO ALL who are guests this morning.
We hope you feel warmly received and experience a time of worship. Please feel free to contact Pastor Susan if you would like to visit.

BLESSINGS IN THIS NEW YEAR OF 2017! Today in worship we will be remembering ways God has been faithful to us in the past. We are glad you are here to worship with us this morning!

THANK YOU, EACH OF YOU, for the sharing last Sunday during our December 25 worship. Hearing from you is a blessing every time. Pastor Susan

WE WILL BE HEARING FROM Laurel and Ethan Koerner next week, January 8, as they share their faith stories and become members here at First Mennonite. Join in prayer for them and for us as a congregation as they become part of this fellowship.

DOUG AND HOLLY LEFT YESTERDAY for their interterm trip to Israel/Palestine. The group numbers 30. Trip itinerary is posted on the pastor's bulletin board. Let's lift all elements of this trip in prayer.

OUR FIRST WEDNESDAY EVENING meal and activity is January 11! Adults will hear from Donna Becker, retired nurse educator. Her interests are mental health nursing, aging and end of life issues. Donna's presentation, *Taking Out the Trash: A Developmental Task*, was recommended to us and is on the topic of caring for our internal personal matters all through life. She speaks about the importance of tending to the hard places in our lives before the "pile" gets too high! This is a good topic to begin our year. Come to the chapel at 7:15 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY IS A CARRY-IN MEAL! We encourage you to come and mingle with our church family now that the holidays are coming to a close.

KANSAS MENNONITE RELIEF SALE WILL HAPPEN in April 2017 because of support from hundreds of people like you. Funds are raised before the sale to cover the costs of running the sale and buying the basic food stuffs needed to produce the food products offered at the sale. ALL PROCEEDS gathered at the sale are given 100% to MCC. Please consider supporting the sale through the special offering on January 8 as well as other special projects and efforts to support the sale event. If you have items such as a car, truck, tractor, craft item, antique furniture, quilts, sewing notions, or other items of interest to sale organizers, please let us know in the next months, so it can be properly prepared and advertised. Thank you for making MCC an important part of your giving.

KMRS Committee: Jan & Deryll Amstutz,
Nancy & Douglas Graber

THE KANSAS MENNONITE MEN'S CHORUS invites men, 8 to 80 plus, to "Sing So That Others May Live!" Concert offerings raise money for Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) projects in relief, development and conscience raising activities around the world. Music style ranges from gospel, folk, and hymn arrangements for 4 part male choruses. Men of Hillsboro are among early organizers and leaders in creating this mission outreach which utilizes a unique tradition and ability among us, that of singing praises to God in 4-part harmony. Join the hundreds of men who give a few hours of time to make such a wonderful experience possible. Practices begin in late February and concerts are in April, May and June. See bulletin board for more details.

AMONG OUR FRIENDS

We lift in prayer:
Nadine Friesen
Mieka and Casey Bartel and baby Marin
Joel Klaassen
Linda Bartel
Tammy Wintermote
Dan Schaefer

BETHEL COLLEGE:

Sat., Jan. 7 – Kauffman Museum First-Saturday Bird Walk. Join experienced birders Gregg Friesen and Rod Wedel at 9 a.m. in the museum parking lot for a walk of 1 to 1.5 hours. Please be aware this is mostly on an unpaved trail and the terrain is sometimes sloping or steep. (For help locating Kauffman Museum, see www.bethelks.edu/why-bethel/location/campus-map/)

Tues., Jan. 10 – Friends of the MLA presentation, 7 p.m., Ben Goossen, "Mennonites at War: Military Service, Ethnic Cleansing and Global Migrations During and After the First World War," *Kauffman Museum*

Centering Prayer continues to meet every Monday from noon-1 p.m. in Agape Center in Richert House on the Bethel College campus. Try it once, come occasionally or join us regularly – all are welcome, with no previous experience required. For more information, contact Nathan Koontz, 2nathankoontz@gmail.com, or Melanie Zuercher, mzuercher@bethelks.edu. (For help locating Agape Center in Richert House, see www.bethelks.edu/why-bethel/location/campus-map/)

Bethel College is offering many of its classes for community audit. You pay \$50 per credit hour (compared to the normal audit rate of \$85 per hour) OR, if you're age 62 and older, a flat rate of \$30. For more information, go to www.bethelks.edu/audit, where there are links for **interterm 2017 course schedule** (enrollment deadline **Jan. 4**) and **spring 2017 course schedule** (enrollment deadline **Feb 13**).

The **Bethel College Alumni Choir is looking for more singers** interested in getting together for music, fun and fellowship. The next concert will be Sun., Feb. 5, 3 p.m. (you'll be out in time for football!), with one rehearsal, Sat., Feb. 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. If you're a Bethel choir alumnus and want to be involved, contact Andrew Voth, votha@usd411.org; see "Bethel College Alumni Choir" on Facebook for more information.

Joshua 4:1-11, 19-24 The Message

4¹⁻³ When the whole nation was finally across, GOD spoke to Joshua: "Select twelve men from the people, a man from each tribe, and tell them, 'From right here, the middle of the Jordan where the feet of the priests are standing firm, take twelve stones. Carry them across with you and set them down in the place where you camp tonight.'"

4⁷ Joshua called out the twelve men whom he selected from the People of Israel, one man from each tribe. Joshua directed them, "Cross to the middle of the Jordan and take your place in front of the Chest of GOD, your God. Each of you heft a stone to your shoulder, a stone for each of the tribes of the People of Israel, so you'll have something later to mark the occasion. When your children ask you, 'What are these stones to you?' you'll say, 'The flow of the Jordan was stopped in front of the Chest of the Covenant of GOD as it crossed the Jordan—stopped in its tracks. These stones are a permanent memorial for the People of Israel.'"

8⁻⁹ The People of Israel did exactly as Joshua commanded: They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan—a stone for each of the twelve tribes, just as GOD had instructed Joshua—carried them across with them to the camp, and set them down there. Joshua set up the twelve stones taken from the middle of the Jordan that had marked the place where the priests who carried the Chest of the Covenant had stood. They are still there today.

10⁻¹¹ The priests carrying the Chest continued standing in the middle of the Jordan until everything God had instructed Joshua to tell the people to do was done (confirming what Moses had instructed Joshua). The people crossed; no one dawdled. When the crossing of all the people was complete, they watched as the Chest of the Covenant and the priests crossed over.

19⁻²² The people came up out of the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month. They set up camp at The Gilgal (The Circle) to the east of Jericho. Joshua erected a monument at The Gilgal, using the twelve stones that they had taken from the Jordan. And then he told the People of Israel, "In the days to come, when your children ask their fathers, 'What are these stones doing here?' tell your children this: 'Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry ground.'"

23⁻²⁴ "Yes, GOD, your God, dried up the Jordan's waters for you until you had crossed, just as GOD, your God, did at the Red Sea, which had dried up before us until we had crossed. This was so that everybody on earth would recognize how strong GOD's rescuing hand is and so that you would hold GOD in solemn reverence always."

CALENDAR

January 5 7 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting
 January 8 FMC Carry-In Post-Holiday Fellowship
 January 10 7 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting
 January 11 Weds. Evening Meal and activities begins
 January 26 7 p.m. Ministries Council Meeting
 January 29 Annual Meeting following Carry-In

CARRY-IN MEAL SCHEDULE:

January 8 – Post Holiday Fellowship!
 January 29 – Annual Meeting

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Friday: Dan & Jeanette Schaefer

Last Week Attendance: 50

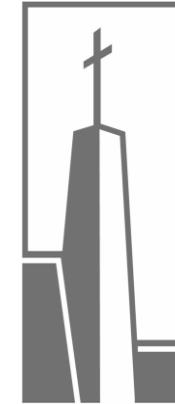
*Special offering next week goes to Mennonite Central Committee Relief Sale unless otherwise designated.

CHURCH OFFICE

102 S. Ash, Hillsboro, KS, 67063, Phone 620-947-5662
 www.fmchillsboro.com

Susan Jantzen, Pastor pastor@fmchillsboro.com	Office hours: Tues – Fri 9-12 C: 620-877-7923
Hank Unruh, Youth Pastor youthpastor@fmchillsboro.com	Office hours: Wed afternoon C: 316-288-1079
Becky Gage, Secretary secretary@fmchillsboro.com	Office hours: Mon & Weds 9-12, Thurs & Fri 9-12
Tim Unruh, Custodian timu@tabor.edu	Office hours: Varied C: 620-947-1585

The church building is open from 9 am to noon Mon. – Fri. except for holidays. For assistance outside of those times, please contact Tim Unruh at 620-947-1585. Please schedule all meetings & events at FMC through the church office.



FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

In Christ -
 Making Disciples through
 Loving Relationships.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

January 1, 2017

GATHERING

Gathering Music	Shirley Baltzer
Welcome & Announcements	Jim & Pastor Susan
Prelude to Worship	Shirley Baltzer
*Call to Worship	Jim Jantzen
Psalm 90 (selected verses)	No. 819
*Hymn Guide me, O thou great Jehovah	No. 582
*Invocation	Jim Jantzen
Hymn Praise, I will praise you, Lord	No. 76

SHARING

Children's Story	Pastor Susan
Special Music	Pastor Susan & Shirley Baltzer
Sharing and Prayer	Pastor Susan
Prayer Response	Pastor Susan

Congregation, what is your source of comfort and encouragement?

Our help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!

In scripture, Paul says, Grace to you and peace, from God the Father.

In scripture, Jesus says, Peace be with you. I have come to rescue you from life without hope.

**Hear our voices, Lord, when we cry for mercy.
 Hear our voices, Lord, when we seek your leading hand.**

**ALL: We thank you, God, for the gift of salvation.
 We will call on your name in our need
 and in our joy. Amen.**

Prayer Song	Star Child	(on handout)
Offering		Shirley Baltzer