

Prayer of Confession & Reconciliation (based on Psalm 32)  
**In our humanness our bodies and spirits waste away.  
Our strength dries up as in the heat of summer.  
Then, we acknowledge our sin to you, and do not  
hide our need.**

**You forgive and come to us with open arms.  
Therefore, we offer our prayer and worship to you.**  
(Pause for silent confession)

Assurance: In times of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach us. God is a hiding place for us – preserving us from trouble and surrounding us with glad cries of deliverance. Amen

Prayer Song	If you believe and I believe	Grey Sgbk 48
Offering		Shirley Baltzer
Scripture		
	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Jeff Wintermote
	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	Deryll Amstutz
Special Music		FMC Lenten Ensemble
	<i>Forgiveness</i> Mark Shipp	
	(words from Psalm 32)	
Message		Nadine Friesen

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S STORY

Congregational Response: write/reflect about a time you were vulnerable, when you messed up. How did you turn to God? In the present, what parts of your life might be ready to turn to God?

*Hymn	God, whose giving	No. 383
*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.*

**MCC FELLOWSHIP MEAL**, TODAY, after the service.  
Come to the Fellowship Hall and join in for the extra special fellowship meal. Salads and desserts brought in by many will complement the Beef Stroganoff and rice dish prepared by the MCC liaison team. Donations to the MCC projects are part of this gathering time around the table for fellowship and good food. Please join in, ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

**THIS DECEMBER AND JANUARY** issues of *First Threshings* were shorter than usual so I hope you'll bear with the March one being longer. And I hope you'll get as caught up as I was with Brother Lawrence – so appropriate for Lent/Easter...and beyond. Pat B.

**VISION COUNCIL IS PLEASED** to announce that Marvin Zehr has consented to serve as half-time pastor during Pastor Susan's sabbatical on April 11 - June 27. Marv served as interim pastor 5 years ago so he is familiar with our congregation. He will be in the office from 9-12 on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings and will preach twice a month. He will also be available as needed for visitation and other needs as they arise. The week of August 7-13 Marv will be available for emergency or "on call" needs.

The sabbatical may also provide the opportunity for us to step forward to provide support, leadership, and hospitality during this time. Please keep Pastor Susan, Pastor Marv, and our church family in prayer as we move forward to this time.

Vision Council: Carolyn Penner, Nadine Friesen,  
Kelly Linnens, Marlin Bartel

**AS A COURTESY TO MARV ZEHR**, photos are needed on our photo board outside the pastor's office. If we have not received a photo from you, where possible, we will use a photo from the 2004 or 2010 photo directory.

Marv will use the same email as Pastor Susan uses, pastor@fmchillsboro.com. For now, you are welcome to use Marv's home email: mjzehr@cox.net.

**MEMBER DIRECTORY:** I want to thank those of you who have gotten your changes for the directory to me. I would like to send the final draft off for print within the next couple weeks. Please get changes or added information into the office as soon as possible or email me at secretary@fmchillsboro.com. Thanks again! Becky Gage

**AFTER RECENT COLABORATION** amongst our Ushers and Greeters, we would like to encourage worshipers to move from the narthex into the Sanctuary 2-4 minutes before worship begins at 10:35 a.m. The back doors will be released and swung closed so we can begin worship as a group. As always, worship committee is glad to hear your helpful comments and suggestions.

**THIS WEDNESDAY** we will complete our look at communion in the congregation.

### Wednesday evening Spring schedule:

Feb 17 through March 9: "Come Lord Jesus, Be our Host"  
Pastor Susan, discussion leader  
March 16: NO MEAL OR ACTIVITIES – SPRING BREAK  
March 23 through April 13: Collected Thoughts –  
Keith Harder  
April 13: Last regular Weds evening  
April 20: FM Hi-FY Variety Show

**FMC GATHERED IN \$77.47** during the My Coins Count collection time for MCC projects last Sunday. Thank-you for this generous outpouring of cash for people in need. The MCC Relief Sale is now a month away. Join in to make this amount grows each Sunday until then!

**TRINITY MENNONITE CHURCH** in Hillsboro, KS, will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Sunday, May 29, and would love to have you celebrate with them! Highlights will include a worship service, a catered noon meal, a presentation of pictures, sharing of stories, and tours of the original church sites as well as their cemeteries. RSVP to trinit67063@embarqmail.com or call 620-947-3824.

### AMONG OUR FRIENDS

Please remember in prayer:  
Excel community, Hesston Community  
Bartels at Myrta's passing  
Clariece Schroeder during her hospital stay and struggle with respiratory issues  
Hilda Schmidt during her recovery from a possible mild stroke and stay in the hospital  
Ron and Clarice Warkentin's at the death of Ron's mother

The plant in our Sanctuary is from our congregation for Susie Kliewer at the death of her mother, Aldythe (Aldie) Kliewer.

The Bartel family has shared flowers for our service today from Myrta Bartel's memorial service this past Wednesday.

**BETHEL COLLEGE: Today** – Jill Siebert senior voice recital, 4 p.m., *Administration Building chapel* at Bethel College. **Tues., March 8** – Friends of the MLA presentation: Rachel Waltner Goossen, “Mennonite Women Challenge John Howard Yoder’s Sexual Abuse,” 7 p.m., *Kauffman Museum auditorium*. **Fri., March 11** and **Sun., March 13** – Bethel College spring opera, *Iphigenia in Tauris* by Christoph Willibald Gluck (not Bizet’s *Carmen*). Friday performance, 7:30 p.m. (not 7 p.m. as appears on printed calendars); Sunday performance, 3 p.m. (not 2 p.m.). *Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center*, tickets on sale at Thresher Shop in Schultz Student Center. **Sat., March 12** – Mika Patron senior piano and organ recital, 3 p.m., *Administration Building chapel* at Bethel College

**CALENDAR**

Mar 6 MCC Fellowship Meal/Carry-In  
 Mar 7-9 MCC Comforter Blitz, Yoder, KS  
 Mar 16 NO MEAL OR ACTIVITIES  
 Mar 20 Palm Sunday  
 Mar 22 7 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting  
 Mar 24 Maundy Thursday – 7 p.m. Service  
 Mar 25 Good Friday – Stations of the Cross  
 Mar 27 Easter – 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service (Kleiber’s)  
 9 a.m. Brunch/ Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. Easter Celebration Worship Service  
 April 8 & 9 Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale,  
 Hutchinson Fair Grounds

**BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**

**Today:** Becky Gage, Dan Schaeffer, Eliot Regier  
**Friday:** Ashley Bartel, Bob Jantz  
**Saturday:** Jim Flaming

**Driver:** Don Penner **Next Week:** Susie Kliever

**TREASURER’S REPORT 2/28/2016**

FMC Ministries .....\$3,578.00  
 Hi-FY ..... \$50.00  
 Mennonite Mission Network ..... \$300.00  
 Year to Date Budget Income .....\$23,071.03  
 Year-to-date Budget Expenses .....\$26,988.37  
 FMC Ministries Fund Balance .....-\$3,917.34

\*Next week’s special offering goes to Mission Committee (MSM/Circles) unless otherwise designated.

**Last Week Attendance:** 103

**LENT WORSHIP THEMES 2016**

**LIVING INK: GOD’S STORY WRITTEN FOR US AND THROUGH US**

- Lent 1, Feb 14: Living Ink: God’s Story Written for Us
- Lent 2, Feb 21: Living Ink: Our Struggle to Understand the Story
- Lent 3, Feb 28: Living Ink: We Join the Story (God’s Story Through Us)
- Lent 4, March 6: Living Ink: Turning to God
- Lent 5, March 13: Living Ink: Unexpected Gifts
- Lent 6, March 20: **Palm Sunday**  
 Living Ink: Turning Away From God
- Lent 7, March 27: **Easter Sunday**  
 Living Ink: The Ending Becomes the Beginning

*Scriptures for each Sunday are listed in the February First Threshings*

Image artists: Feb 14 – Ethan Koerner  
 Feb 21 – Jim Jantzen  
 Feb 28 – Katherine Hamm  
 March 6 – Aleen Ratzlaff

*We invite you to keep the small notebook given to you in a place where you can bring it each Sunday.  
 Lenten blessings*

**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: Varies 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

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
 Worship 10:35 a.m.

March 6, 2016

**LIVING INK: TURNING TO OUR GOD**

Gathering Music	Shirley Baltzer
Welcome & Announcements	Jeff & Pastor Susan
Prelude to Worship	Shirley Baltzer

*We carry in the Bible, a journal and a tablet remembering the Living Ink of God’s story being written in our lives.*

**GATHERING**

\*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 32) Jeff Wintermote  
 Many are our trials, O God!

**But steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.**

In God we are blessed.

**In the Lord there is no deceit.**

Even in our dry and weary state,  
 the pressure eases away  
 when we turn to the Lord.

**Hear our voice, O God!**

**We come to you as our refuge!**

Be glad in the Lord, O people!  
 All you honest hearts, sing together!  
 The Lord is always ready to receive us!

*Hymn	Brethren, we have met to worship	No. 8
Opening Prayer		Jeff Wintermote
Hymn	Far, far away from my loving father	No. 139

**HEARING GOD’S STORY**

Children’s Story	Erin Unruh
Sharing and Prayer	Pastor Susan
	Deanne Duerksen
	Mark Rogers
	Main Street Ministries
	Circles of Hope