

TREASURER'S REPORT 2/4/18

FMC Ministries	\$2,462.95
Hi-FY	\$300.00
Year to Date Budget Income	\$10,870.41
Year-to-date Budget Expenses	\$10,208.51
FMC Ministries Fund Balance	\$661.90

TREASURER'S REPORT 2/11/18

FMC Ministries	\$2,151.83
Hi-FY	\$885.00
Year to Date Budget Income	\$13,022.24
Year-to-date Budget Expenses	\$12,428.39
FMC Ministries Fund Balance	\$593.85

Last week's attendance: 55

Lent is a period of 40 weekdays beginning with Ash Wednesday and ending the Saturday before Easter. Lent is a period of spiritual reflection, confession, and openness to spiritual renewal.

February 14 Ash Wednesday Service

**February 18 Lent 1 Jesus Goes Before Us
and Binds the Opposition**

February 25 Lent 2 Jesus Goes Before Us and Provides

March 4 Lent 3 Jesus Goes Before Us and Asks Us Who He is

March 11 Lent 4 Jesus Goes Before Us

and Reminds Us Whose We Are

March 18 Lent 5 Jesus Goes Before Us and Gives Us a Future

March 25 PALM SUNDAY Jesus Goes Before Us in Suffering

April 1 EASTER Jesus Goes Before Us in Victory

Mark 3:27

²⁷ But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.



FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

In Christ -
Making Disciples through
Loving Relationships.

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

February 18, 2018

GATHERING

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude to Worship

*Call to Worship

The time has come; the kingdom of God draws near.

Repent and believe the good news.

We have come.

We are here.

We ready ourselves to worship God together.

We ready ourselves to love our neighbor.

*Hymn Come, we that love the Lord

*Confession

God of creation and salvation,

Your strength and love is greater than our fear.

We give up and build barriers.

We decide who is in and who is out.

We turn away from the destruction we create.

In earth, air, water, all living creatures,

in our brothers and our sisters,

we see how you create and save.

Forgive us for making your love too small.

As you move to bind that which destroys

may we walk in your way as you go before us.

Hymn Strong, righteous man of Galilee

Shirley Baltzer

Kelly and Pastor Susan

Shirley Baltzer

Kelly Linnens

No. 14

Kelly Linnens

No. 540

SHARING

Children's Story

Sharing and Prayer

Prayer Song

Offering

I am weak and I need thy strength

Erin Unruh

Pastor Susan

No. 553

Shirley Baltzer

COMMUNION

Scripture	Mark 3:7, 9-11, 13-15, 19b-27	Kelly Linnens
Meditation		Pastor Susan
Words of Communion		
Song of Preparation	Let the hungry come to me	No. 464
Receiving Communion		

RESPONDING

*Hymn	I am the bread of life (verses 1, 2, and 5)	No. 472
*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.

OUR SEASON OF LENT HAS BEGUN with the theme *Jesus Goes Before Us*. Communion will be served today, the First Sunday of Lent.

A DIFFERENT BULLETIN FORMAT and paper will be used during the Sundays of Lent as our Worship Committee explores bulletin options.

MY COINS COUNT COLLECTION of change has begun and will continue until the MCC Sale weekend April 13-14. Money from My Coins Count goes directly into M.C.C. relief work around the world. Thank you for your generosity.

SHARING FROM JANTZEN'S CHAD TRIP is this afternoon at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary. Jim and Susan, Peter and Sarah will present photos, brief videos and reflections. Hope you can come!

HI-FY WILL BE HOSTING a semi-formal meal this evening at 6:30 p.m. Come for a fun evening and help support the youth group.

THIS WEDNESDAY EVENING, we will gather in the Chapel at 7 p.m. to mark Douglas and Nancy Graber's leave-taking from our congregation. This will be a time of sharing, affirmation, remembering and prayer.

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES CONTINUE. Come enjoy food and fellowship at 6:15 p.m. Children and Youth have age-grouped activities which begin at 6:45 p.m. Adults will meet at 7 p.m. for the following adult topics:

February 21 - Sharing and Prayer with Douglas and Nancy Graber.

February 28 - Richard Kyle, retired Tabor history professor, speaking on how popular evangelism takes on traits of American culture.

March 7 & 14 - Discussion on the book, **The Land**, by Mildred Taylor

The Land, by Mildred Taylor, is available for purchase in the foyer for \$5. Discussions of this book will be March 7 and 14 in the chapel beginning at 7 p.m. Whether you can come to the Wednesday evening discussion or not, take time to read this story about a young man after the U.S. civil war who follows his dream to have land, even though he is a mixed-race person. The reading goes easily and powerfully shares the personal dilemmas of unequal opportunity. The author is known for her book, **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry**, winner of the 1977 Newbery Medal. Join in as we read together.

THE PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE comprised of Erin Unruh, Holly Swartzendruber, Lenna Knoll, Nadine Friesen, Glen Diener, Eric Bartel and Deryll Amstutz has completed the prerequisite tasks to begin a search as suggested by Western District Conference. The job description for our pastoral position is now posted on the WDC website and we have met with the conference representative, Kathy Neufeld Dunn, who oriented us to the search process and left us information about a couple of potential candidates. We invite you to be in prayer with us as we listen to each other and how God's spirit is directing us.

AMONG OUR FRIENDS

We lift these friends in prayer:

Lester Funk
Joel Klaassen
Julie Anderson
Family of Ann Bartel
Family of Dayle Unruh

Marlin and Cheryl Bartel give thanks for the arrival of Everett Lee, born to Amanda and Brandon Emery on February 15.

CALENDAR

Feb. 18 4 p.m. Jim & Susan share about Chad
6:30 p.m. Youth Meal
Feb. 21 8 p.m. Choir Practice
Feb. 28 8 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting
March 1 8 p.m. Care Committee Meeting
March 4 9:30 a.m. Ushers and Greeters meeting - FH
March 11 MCC Dinner in Fellowship Hall
March 21 No Wednesday Evening Meal or Activities
April 1 Sunrise Service
Easter Breakfast
10 a.m. Easter Worship Service