



# First Mennonite Church

## Midweek E-Newsletter

June 1, 2022

### From Pastor Tom

*Pastor Tom is completing his time with family and travelling home this week. He wrote about Pentecost last week which we will celebrate on Sunday, so to repeat – “Yes, Lord. Send us your Holy Spirit. Amen”*

### From Secretary Sue

Since Pastor Tom is gone, I thought I would share a few thoughts. Let me be clear. Pastor Tom has NOT disappeared. He is NOT invisible. He is just “unseen” right now, on his way home from a family celebration!

Being unseen, is a thought I learned from a book I read recently called The Unseen Real by Stephen Seamands. It is how Jesus is to us now after His ascension (which was last Thursday on the Christian calendar).

Can you imagine being with the disciples and seeing Jesus taken up into the clouds? He didn’t turn into a ghost or become invisible, but rather he moved to heaven, a different dimension than our earth. He is seated at the right hand of God, reigning as Lord and King and interceding for us! What are the connotations now for us who are “in Christ”?

Ponder this: “Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.” Colossians 3:1-3 What a mystery!

### Among Our Friends and In Our Prayers

☞ Pray that **God will lead us to nuggets of His truth** to share with each other this coming Sunday in our time of worship.

☞ **Creativity Camp** starts next Tuesday afternoon. Pray for God’s leading and presence throughout our preparation and time together.

☞ **Come Holy Spirit!**

### Upcoming Events

☞ **This week!** Has a scripture been extra meaningful? A song caught your attention? A nudge from Holy Spirit encouraged you lately? All are invited to please share a thought from your

spiritual journey with the rest of your family this coming Sunday as we celebrate Pentecost. If you prefer having someone else read your thoughts from the front for you, there are those who are willing to do that.

- ☞ **Carry-in Meal** – **Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>** - We will fellowship after worship with your delicious home cooking as we say farewell to Doug Miller and Holly Swartzendruber! Please bring whatever food you like and your table service. Drinks will be provided here. Be sure to sign the card for them. There will be a time to speak messages of encouragement after the meal also
- ☞ **Creativity Camp** – not too late to invite a neighbor or friend! (completed grades 1-6) Extra flyers to share are on the entryway whiteboard.
- ☞ **Registration is now open for the WDC Annual Assembly**, to be held July 29-31, 2022. This will be a "hybrid" event - some workshops will be only virtual, other parts will be only on-site. Worship and the Delegate Session will be hybrid with people on-site and virtual sharing together. Our on-site venue is Camp Copass, Denton, TX. We welcome everyone however you attend.
- ☞ Save the Date: "**Sunday School Picnic**" with Trinity Mennonite Church will be **August 14**.

## Other Announcements

- ☞ **Last week's Baking Party** was successful! 30 dozen cookies were baked for the Food 4 Kids program at Trinity. (That won't last long though with daily meals, so keep baking at home!)
- ☞ **Check out the bulletin board of our "great cloud of witnesses"!** If you have a program from one of our "family" memorial services that didn't get put up, you are welcome to bring them and add them to our board. (I only put up duplicates, since we keep a copy in our files.)
- ☞ **Then The Rules Changed** – published by Prairieland Press. Author Carolyn Zeisset and her husband, from Nebraska, stopped by the church office to tell me about her new novel written about a German-from-Russia boy in the 1870s who migrated from Ukraine to Hillsboro. It is written about your ancestors! More information can be found at [carolynzeisset.com](http://carolynzeisset.com) The book can be purchased on Amazon or requested at local bookstores.
- ☞ From Mennonite Church USA: The **Poor People's Campaign** "follows the spirit and analysis of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in identifying and combatting the 'evil triplets' of systemic racism, poverty and the war economy, along with attendant ecological devastation and the false moral narrative of religious nationalism." Rod Hollinger-Janzen, administrative assistant for Church Vitality in Mennonite Church USA, walks through the reasons why he is an avid supporter of the campaign. Read more, including how you can be involved in the Mass Poor People's and Low-Wage Workers' Assembly and Moral March on Washington and to the Polls, on Saturday, June 18: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/meet-peoples-needs/>

**Verse of the Week: Ephesians 2:6-7**

*“And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.”*