



# First Mennonite Church

## Midweek E-Newsletter

June 8, 2022

### From Pastor Tom

#### Sharing God's Creativity

I'm loving Creativity Camp (and thanks, Sue and Jan, for dreaming this up)! It is a reminder, first of all, that we have been wonderfully created by God. Or to put it differently, we are part of God's "good" creation. And second, God has instilled in each one of us the ability to create. Create what? you might ask. The answer is, you name it! The possibilities, like God himself, are endless!

Jan, Sue, and Aleen have decided on three "classes" to offer the children participating in the Camp: cooking, painting, and sewing. And in each class, the children will be guided to create something. In cooking, they will create a snack to enjoy together. In painting, they will create a picture using watercolors. And in sewing, they will each create a pillowcase.

But there's more. When they gather at the beginning and end of each day, they will create music, as they are led in singing by yours truly. More specifically, they will create a spirit of praise and thanksgiving, celebration and prayer. Here's hoping they take the songs home with them, enabling the praise, thanksgiving, celebration and prayer to spread! Worship is a form of creativity. Deryll Amstutz will share his gift of creativity by sharing a story from the Bible with them each of the four days. And when stories are told well, they beg to be retold, this time by the children, to their families and friends. Storytelling is a form of creativity.

How do you like to create? By putting words on a page in meaningful order? Writing is a form of creativity! By planting a flower or vegetable garden? Gardening is a form of creativity! By building something, at work or at home? Building is a form of creativity! By taking and showing photographs? Photography is a form of creativity! By preparing meals? As already stated above, cooking is a form of creativity! Music, painting, decorating, teaching, planning, praying, organizing, fixing, reading, even the simple, daily act of speaking—all are forms of creativity! May all of our creations bring glory to God.

### Among Our Friends and In Our Prayers

☞ Continue to pray for those with health issues.

☞ **Ministry at Camp Mennoscah** – Awakening to God's love for all who are in summer camps.

- ☞ **Creativity Camp** was off to a strong start on Tuesday with 9 students. Let us pray for all of our Creativity Camp helpers, that God will grant them the energy (and joy!) they need.

## Upcoming Events

- ☞ **This week's special offering will go to Camp Mennoscah!**
- ☞ **Ministries Council** will be meeting tomorrow evening, June 9<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm
- ☞ **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**.
- ☞ **June WDC Resource Library Final Thursday Book Discussion:** "At no other time in history or place in the world have so many people understood themselves to be suffering from mental health problems." In *Not Quite Fine: Mental Health, Faith, and Showing Up for One Another*, author Carlene Hill Byron calls and equips the church to step up for such a time as this. Join us Thursday, June 30 at 7:00pm via Zoom to discuss the book. Register by emailing [crlib@mennowdc.org](mailto:crlib@mennowdc.org)

## Other Announcements

- ☞ **Thank you to generous memorial funds** for numerous flowers in the area around the marquee. Take a look!
- ☞ **Newest request!** I would love to post photos or words about your family's summer fun on our bulletin board. I know many of you have been on vacation, had family visits, or done other extra special things. Please email [secretary@fmchillsboro.com](mailto:secretary@fmchillsboro.com) to share with us so we can celebrate and praise God with you! -Sue
- ☞ **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:**

**2 Timothy 1:6**

***“I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you....”***

(Remember Pentecost! We have the Holy Spirit!)