



First Mennonite Church

Midweek E-Newsletter

April 19, 2023

To All Brothers and Sisters In Christ:

Next Steps in our Journey

We are so grateful for all the leadership and memories that we have been blessed with from Pastor Tom. As we are without a pastor currently, waiting on God's leading, we appreciate how so many have willingly stepped up with support and participation. Each member of our body is valued and needed! The leadership will keep you up-to-date on our latest plans and decisions in this article in your e-newsletter each week. We welcome your ideas and responses!

- ☞ The Vision Council, Worship Committee and nurture committee have all joined together to plan our near future. They met last night and are planning a six-week block of services that will focus on the scripture in the lectionary which is "Eastertide."
- ☞ This Sunday will be the last one for streaming live on Facebook – plans are to continue to post the service on YouTube.
- ☞ After the April 30 service, all are invited to meet to share ideas about being the church at FMC. (This will conclude around 12:15 p.m. and does not include a meal.)
- ☞ The ministries council meets again on April 26 with Kathy Neufeld-Dunn.

(If your friends and neighbors ask what's happening at FMC, tell them we are trusting God who is leading us step by step! 😊)

Verse for Pondering:

Ephesians 1:22 – "God put everything under Christ's feet and made Him head of everything in the church." (Common English Bible)

Among Our Friends and In Our Prayers

[Please send a text or email to the church secretary if you have something to share!]

- Pray for one another through our church directory.
- Pray for sponsors, mentors, teachers and pastors who minister with youth in schools and churches in Hillsboro and all WDC congregations.

Upcoming Events

- **Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus:** April 23 - 7pm at Bethel College. See the flyer on the bulletin board.
- **Anabaptist Mennonite 500 Project** update and discussion at Whitestone Mennonite Church in Hesston on April 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Other Announcements

- **FYI:** this week, Pastor Tom is sorting, cleaning, and moving out of the church office as he begins his retirement from ministry with us. Our agreed upon expectations are he will not officiate at events in the life of the congregation and not attend or participate for a year to give a new pastor time to settle in unless invited by current leadership.
- It has been our tradition to have an **all-church retreat** in the fall every other year at Camp Mennoscah. We have been requested to book a date soon. Is anyone interested? Let the church secretary know.
- **WDC Resource Library:** Book sale to make room for new resources on Saturday, May 6 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The website has a new updated system for accessing the catalog which you can find at mennowdc.org/library
- **Save the Date!** Western district Conference Annual Assembly will be August 11-13, 2023 at Tabor Mennonite Church in Newton. This annual event is for all ages. Come for intergenerational fun faith formation, music, worship, work of the broader church, good food, time with old and new friends and more! The topic is holy listening.