



Newsletter

May 3, 2023

To All Brothers and Sisters In Christ: Next Steps in our Journey

Latest leadership plans and decisions

- The **ministries council** shared a proposal from Kathy Neufeld-Dunn from WDC of a new type of transition leadership model to consider which Doug Bartel shared with us on Sunday at the end of our worship time. The suggestion was to find two people to help us through this transition time due to the fact that there are few people available. We would have a part-time transition person that is from a distance and would be like a consultant, helping us work through our transition concerns. This person has done this type of thing before and been called an Intentional Interim Minister (IIM). A special leadership transition team would be in communication with this person and lead us through the process while we would also have an on-site interim pastor part-time to help us with day-to-day needs. Contact Doug Bartel if you have questions.
- **Worship/Nurture** chair, Aleen Ratzlaff handed out a simple sheet on Sunday of two questions to welcome input from all. If you have been sensing any leading of the Holy Spirit or want to participate in our day-to-day church life (worship participation, care or visiting ministry, etc,) during this interim period, please contact her or the church office. We are trying to be as transparent and authentic as possible as we navigate our next steps.
- **This Sunday**, Kelly and Julie Linnens will be our worship leaders as we focus on Christ as our cornerstone.

Verse for Pondering: Psalm 31:3 -

"You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me."

Among Our Friends and In Our Prayers

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

- **Church Family Prayers:** As you pray for one another through our church directory, please also thank God for the new folks that have been joining us. (I'm especially thankful for the beautiful unified singing of the doxology last Sunday - such a highlight of worship for me!)
- **Intercede to our heavenly Father for Julie Anderson.** She met with her doctor today and her liver labs are concerning. She had another treatment and is exhausted from a long day.
- **Deloris Funk's daughter, Carol Prehiem's** neck surgery went well. Praise God and continue prayers.
- Pray for our **teachers and students** at all levels as they complete the school year. Elementary teachers need extra creativity to keep the children focused. Middle and High School teachers need patience as students "are done". It is finals week at Tabor and Commencement is on Saturday. Pray for Aleen Ratzlaff as she gives the Commencement address there.
- Special blessings to **Josh Diener**, our high school senior! He invites you to celebrate with him at a reception before graduation from noon to 3:00 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall and then commencement at 4:00 p.m. on May 13. You can check out his invitation on our hall bulletin board.
- **Food4Kids** outreach will begin in our building soon. Pray for this ministry!
- "Dear Lord, we draw near to the throne of your grace, to give you glory, honor, and praise. And to ask you to hear the prayers of your children crying out to you. My prayer request is that you guide us, in our meetings, that we feel your peace, in every decision. Revive your work amid the times in which we are living, and may the world know you, and may the church take the initiative to be light, to give light, to remain in light and in the midst of darkness to shine like a burning torch. Amen" – **WDC Church Planting Commission**

Upcoming Events

- **May 14th** will be the Sunday for our Special Offering.
- The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale Annual Dinner and Meeting will be Thursday, May 25, 6:00 pm at First Mennonite Church, McPherson. The cost of the meal is \$20.00. Please RSVP to Barb BJ Reeves at bj.reeves@live.com or call/text 620-543-6863 by May 21. Come celebrate the success of the MCC Sale!

Other Announcements

- Heidi Regier Kreider, WDC Conference Minister has an interesting article on the WDC website titled "Being The Church Together". She experienced both the closing of the Trinity Church and the

church planting summit within two weeks of each other and has some good insights and questions to consider which could be helpful for us. Check it out at <https://mennowdc.org/being-the-church-together/>