



First Mennonite Church

Midweek E-Newsletter

August 16, 2023

To All Brothers and Sisters In Christ:

Next Steps in our Journey - *Latest leadership plans and decisions*

- **Ministries Council** – report from meeting on Thursday, August 10
 - Worship/Nurture/Vision Team will be planning some Sundays for community building by offering times for people to share their stories and some weekday events for all-church discussion on what it means to be the church.
 - It was decided that we will no longer look for a transition pastor but will begin the preliminary steps toward looking for a new pastor. The first step for this is doing the deep work of describing who we are and what we need in a pastor.
 - Gas gift cards were given to two families who have been having a lot of travel for health treatment.

Verse for Pondering: **Proverbs 3:5** (NIV) (*emphasis is mine*)

“TRUST IN THE LORD with ALL YOUR HEART and lean NOT ON YOUR OWN understanding.”

Among Our Friends and In Our Prayers

- **A dear sister** will be having back surgery on August 22 in Wichita. Please pray for complete healing and peace through this process and keep in touch with her!
- Continue to pray for our dear brothers and sisters who are struggling with **physical health issues**.

- Pray for the **luncheon Sunday** for those interested in becoming a part of the FMC family. May each one feel clarity about where God wants them to join in.
- **Praise God** for the provision of a job for one friend and some temporary work for the other. Continue prayers for permanent work and more **suitable housing** in the near future!
- Tabor college started this week, USD 410 Schools starts tomorrow– **pray for all involved, teachers, administrators, and students.**

Upcoming Events

- **Member Inquiry Luncheon:** This Sunday, August 20 after worship. Anyone interested in learning more about who First Mennonite Church is and what we believe is invited to stay for a luncheon that will be provided. Leaders of our Ministries Council will be sharing as well as answering questions. Reservations will be appreciated. Text Sue at 620-947-3734 or email secretary@fmchillsboro.com
- The **Life Enrichment Program** at Bethel College begins for Fall 2023 on August 23 and ends on November 15. See the bulletin board in the hallway for all the wonderful courses being offered.
- **Peppernut baking** will begin next week with set up on Wednesday and baking on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Be sure to check your calendars and plan to join in the wonderful time of fellowship around this fun tradition. Oven watchers are especially needed. These tasty treats will be sold at the Hillsboro Arts & Crafts Fair to raise funds for sharing with others outside of our budget.
- **State Fair tractor drivers** are needed for the MCC fundraiser on Friday, September 8. There are 3 shifts available throughout the day. Talk to Doug Bartel if you are willing to help with this.
- This year's registration form and brochure for the **Western District Women in Mission Women's & Girls Retreat** Sept. 9-10 at Camp Mennoscah is available to download, print and send in at <https://www.westerndistrictwomeninmission.org/events>. We hope you can join us! This year's theme is Women Talking, Listening, and Creating, with our scripture theme being 2 Peter 1:12-21. We'll be diving into some fun activities around storytelling, listening, story-catching, and story-keeping in a variety of formats. Registration is due by September 5. For questions, e-mail westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com.

Other Announcements

- **THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!** The Summer Food 4 Kids is over for this year. With your help we handed out 4,307 meals! (Our record high!) We received \$8,467.84 and 718 dozen cookies in donations. The program costs approximately \$18,000. To be able to do this again next year, we will need to raise \$10,000. Checks can be sent to Summer Food 4 Kids at 102 S. Ash, Hillsboro, KS 67063. Again, thanks so much for your support! ~Norma Duerksen, Coordinator
- **More Rejoice devotionals** have been ordered. Please consider an extra donation to cover the costs of these or talk with Jan Amstutz if you would like help in how to order your own copy online.
- The box is in our foyer for the **MCC School Kit Challenge** again this year! Here is the full list of MCC kit contents (NEW items only). Copies of this are also located on the box that you can take shopping with you!
 - 4 spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (8.5 in x 10.5 in and 70 sheets)
 - 8 new unsharpened pencils
 - 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
 - 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
 - 1 large eraser
 - 4 new black or blue ballpoint pens
 - 1 small **all metal** pencil sharpener, one or two holes. **All metal** sharpeners can be found online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or [Bazic.com](https://www.bazic.com) or in the art supply section of retail stores like Staples. Plastic case pencil sharpeners are not accepted because these are poor quality and do not last as long. **If you cannot find all metal sharpeners** please pack the kits without them and we will add the sharpeners.