



# First Mennonite Church

## Midweek E-Newsletter

October 11, 2023

### To All Brothers and Sisters In Christ:

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

- **Tonight: Discussion time in the fellowship hall from 7- 8:15 pm** around the following questions:
  1. Why do you participate (or not participate) in First Mennonite Church?
  2. How do you experience God being present in your life? At work? In church? At home?
  3. What does making space for God look like?
  4. How do you understand God's mission?
  5. How do we make God visible in Hillsboro?

COME JOIN IN!

- **This coming Sunday:**
  - Nadine Friesen will be our guest speaker with a challenge to "Follow The Shepherd."
- **Ministries Council** is planning a meeting with a **transition pastor candidate** to continue a dialog. Please continue to pray for discernment.

#### Verse for Pondering: John 10:14 (NRSV)

*"I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me,"*

## Among Our Friends and In Our Prayers

- **Thank God for our FMC family** and ask God for His view of one another and how to encourage each other!
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's leading regarding a possible **transition pastor**.
- **Seek God's leading** for **our unique mission in Hillsboro** for the coming year.
- Pray for **FMC college students** as well as those at **Tabor, Bethel, and Hesston Colleges**.
- Pray for clarity for each of us as we learn to **listen to the Holy Spirit** and follow with the **spiritual gifts** he has given us.
- Pray for all the **WDC congregations**, asking for wisdom and discernment for us all as we nurture followers of Christ. Pray particularly for our sister church, **Zion Mennonite in Elbing**. They are doing the same book study as we are, What Is the Church and Why Does It Exist? being without a pastor also.

## Upcoming Events

- **New directory** coming out soon for active participants. Please check that I have your correct information on the sheets on the whiteboard.
- **No specific Mark reading** this week. Taking a break for extra community time! Meet with a friend and share what you have been learning from this study!
- **Tonight! Discussion about our church** continues. All are invited!
- The Sunday School class and others will be providing **a meal for CORE** tomorrow evening. Meet in the church kitchen if you are helping to serve at 5:15 pm.
- **“Trick or Treat So Others Eat”** – The youth of churches in Hillsboro will be collecting non-perishable food on October 25. You can put it on your own porch if you live in town or bring it to the church where we will put it on the church front door. A collection box is in the foyer. Help our local food bank to be replenished.
- **MEN!!! – You have an amazing opportunity right in Newton**. A half-day men's retreat: Living that Matters - November 11, 2023, 8 am – noon in Newton at Shalom Mennonite Church. This retreat draws from Living that Matters: Honest Conversations for Men of Faith (Herald Press, 2023), which each participant will receive. The retreat is led by Steve Thomas, US coordinator of Mennonite Men. They will “examine the scripts we've been given, explore

differing expressions of masculinity, and reconsider our purpose and aims in life.” Check out the flyer on the bulletin board!

- **Hoffnungsaue Mennonite Church**, 43 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Inman, will hold its annual **Sausage Mission Supper** on Saturday, October 21, 5:00 – 6:30. This will be a curbside pick up meal featuring our traditional menu of German sausage, mashed potatoes with gravy, creamed peas, zwiebach, applesauce and pie. This year we will have picnic tables out for anyone wanting to stay and eat their meal! Cost will be a free will offering with all proceeds going to support Camp Mennoscah M & M project. Call or text Barb (620-543-6863) or Eric (620-899-6972) to order meals.

## Other Announcements

- **Bethel College’s Fall Festival** is Oct. 12-15, with most activities taking place Saturday, Oct. 14, on campus. See <https://www.bethelks.edu/alumni/events/fall-festival> for the schedule. This include the musical, *The Addams Family*.
- **Main Street Ministries** is in a season of waiting and preparing for a new director and new families. Pray for this ministry and consider volunteering to help with some cleaning and repair for preparation of the apartments. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094AA4AB2EA3FD0-44414237-main> Use this link to find something that fits for you. There are projects both large and small.