



# First Mennonite Church

## Midweek E-Newsletter

April 3, 2024

### Brothers and Sisters In Christ:

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

Greetings, friends, and Happy Easter Season!

April may feel strange if you come to the church building during the week very much. Sue and I both have time away planned. Keep us in your prayers for travel safety and grace in our work and rest!

We have had focus group meetings on care, worship, nurture, and stewardship of finances. Still in the planning stages are focus group meetings on stewardship of property, and hospitality. Focus group meetings are likely to be repeated later in the process to check my summaries of the sessions. Your words are beginning to influence our policies and structure. The Ministries Council will meet after church on April 14th (our April calendar is complicated!) to consider some of my observations and questions about structure and policies. We anticipate having another congregational session when there's something solid. Keep in mind that we all are valuable, capable, and responsible, beloved children of God, and grace and courage will help us through times of change like this. And keep coming to the Peace Parties!

Blessings – Pastor Kristine

#### **Treasurer's report:**

- First Quarter (Jan – Mar) FMC Ministry fund Income for this year (2024): \$25,774.00
- First Quarter (Jan – Mar) FMC Ministry Fund Income past five-year average: \$27,193.00
- Mission Offerings:
  - February - Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale: \$1095.00
  - March - Main Street Ministries (MSM) \$339.00
    - CORE communities \$208.33
    - Hillsboro Area Ministerial Alliance (HAMA) \$808.34

## Worship/Nurture/Vision News:

- The team met yesterday, April 2 and is pleased to report that ...
  - Themes are planned through May, continuing our focus in the gospel of Luke.
  - The Nurture survey that was emailed will be done on paper this Sunday if you have not already done it.
  - Thanks to Deryll for providing recorded music as our organist continues to recover from her shoulder surgery.

## Verse for Pondering: Ephesians 3:19 (CEB)

“I ask that you’ll know the love of Christ that is beyond knowledge so that you will be filled entirely with the fullness of God.”

## Among Our Friends and In Our Prayers

- Pray for one another through our directory!
- Praise God for **this week’s leadership** for Sunday: Aleen is planning our worship with Deryll Amstutz, Kelly and Julie Linnens and Pastor Kristine assisting.
- Surgery went well but expecting a long recovery. It will be next week before they will know if any further treatment is needed.
- Happy Birthday on Thursday.
- **Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary** is our mission organizations for this month.

## FMC Upcoming Events

- **Pie Baking** next Thursday, April 11 for the MCC sale in our church kitchen beginning at 9:00 am with Jan Amstutz.
- **Office Schedules:** Pastor Kristine will be in the office tomorrow from 11:00 – 5:30 pm. Sue will be in tomorrow morning and then out on Friday and working remotely next week.
- **A fresh look and remodeling for the future is on the way.** Lloyd Anderson is using Julie’s Memorial money to renovate the church office. Beautiful new paint and cabinets have

already been selected! With this in mind, items that are no longer needed will be in the foyer. Help yourself!

- **Pastor Kristine** will be on vacation the week of April 15 – 22.

## Community News:

- Parkside would like to invite you to our new Lifelong Learning Events. We are excited to kickoff with Larry Hatteberg on Tuesday, April 9, at 2PM. Larry is long-time KAKE TV and 'Hatteberg's People' host. He is the most honored journalist in Kansas. The new monthly event will take place at the Apartments, 1 Park Avenue, Hillsboro. Refreshments will follow.

## Mennonite News:

- **MCC Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale** will be in Hutchinson, Kansas April 12 – 13 this year. Still spots for volunteers are available go, <https://kansas.mccsale.org/volunteer/>
- **Tabor College's Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies** (CMBS) will lead a Mennonite Heritage Tour on Saturday, April 20, and host its Annual Dinner on Sunday, April 21.
- Mental Health First Aid: Sat. April 27, from 8:30am-5pm Prairie View will conduct a **Mental Health First Aid Training** at Eden Mennonite Church, 401 18th Ave, Moundridge, KS. \$30 covers the training, materials, and lunch. There is space for 30 people. Register online [here](#) by April 19.