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ASHAMED NO MORE: Lenten Theme

Throughout Lent, beginning Feb 17, we will be following the Lectionary, focusing on the theme of "Ashamed No More," as recommended by The Leader. Many of us are used to thinking about salvation in terms of freedom from judgment/guilt through forgiveness. This Lent, we will explore salvation in terms of restoration to wholeness and honor after one has been shamed and dishonored. Forgiveness and new beginnings are common themes to both ways of conceiving salvation.

Worship Leaders & Teachers

- Feb 3**—Worship leader, Doug; teaching by Jerry; Communion; potluck
- Feb 10**—Worship leader, Doreene; teaching by Pat
- Feb 13**—Ash Wed: Lois
- Feb 17**—Worship leader, Vangie; teaching by Jerry
- Feb 24**—Worship leader, Doug; Teaching by Lois

Mission Focus

- Feb 3**—Global Faith in Action (Pat)
- Feb 10**—Guidelines for Giving (Tom E)
- Feb 17**—Personal Story of Mission and Service (John)
- Feb 24**—Global Faith in Action (Sam Muyskens)

Jan Attendance

Dec 30	15
Jan 6	21
Jan 13	18
Jan 20	20



January Giving

- Jan 6—\$6,315
 - Jan 13—\$116
 - Jan 20—\$1,393
- Thank You!

IMMIGRATION CONFERENCE

Citizens of God's Kingdom: Immigration and Christian Faith is the theme for the Western District Conference (WDC) Reference Council to be hosted at Hope Mennonite Church, 868 N. Maize Road, Wichita, Kansas, **March 1-2, 2013**. Hosts for the event include all four WDC churches in Wichita and the WDC Immigration Task Force.

Presenters include Jason Boone, Coordinating Minister for the Peace and Justice Support Network of Mennonite Church USA, Saulo Padilla, Immigration Education Coordinator with MCC US, and Tammy Alexander, Legislative Associate for Domestic affairs for MCC US in Washington D. C.

Schedule

Friday, March 1

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM – Biblical Stories and our Stories of Immigration

Saturday, March 2

9:00 AM – Root Causes of Migration and the Church's Engagement

12:00 PM – Lunch – (free will offering will be received)

1:00 PM – Understanding Immigration History and Law

3:30 PM – Problems and Profits in Immigration Enforcement

5:30 PM – Christian Advocacy and Networking

**Please RSVP by emailing (wdc@mennowdc.org)
or calling ([316-283-6300](tel:316-283-6300))
with the following information
by Friday, February 22.**

Registration is important for planning purposes.

Thank you!

- **Name**
- **Address**
- **Email address and phone number**
- **Church**
- **Lodging needed**
- **Interpreter needed**

PREPARATION in MCS

As the immigration issue is becoming more prominent, we are trying to find ways to take a more active role in the work of immigrant justice. With this in mind, it might helpful to reflect on our own immigrant stories and identities.

The following are some tasks or questions to help you in exploring your own immigrant history. We anticipate this will help us all identify and understand any hardships or dissociations in our own backgrounds that we can assist us in relating to current immigrant realities.

1. Look into your own genealogy. Trace your own family history back to the immigrant generation(s) if possible.
2. Try to locate on a map where your family originated or emigrated from. We will have a map at church where we can plot are various points of origin.
3. Do you or any of your family know of anything about their journey here, including the how and why.
4. What do you know about the circumstances of your families first years in their new home? Was there any indigenous culture and life that influenced their new lives in their new location.

We encourage you to explore these questions and share them with each other as a topic of discussion during the February pot-luck meal. We will also have a map at church where we can plot and visually see the journeys of our ancestors that brought us together.

Submitted by Bret Prebeim, Immigration Servant Group

RELIEF KITS

Most needed by MCC right now are Relief kits and Comforters. The kits and blankets are shared with people who have been displaced by natural disasters and war and political unrest. Read all about them in the latest issue of "A Common Place" available above the mail boxes. You can also read stories about the refugees. Our church has been challenged to make three kits. They're being used in Tanzania, Columbia, El Salvador, Honduras, Iraq, Haiti, Iran, and Cambodia. These are all our neighbors. God told us to love our neighbors. By sharing these kits, we're sharing Gods love. It's our privilege to do this. One reason we only include the recommended items, is because these are the basic necessities. Imagine being forced from your home without taking anything with you. You would be living without the basics for your comfort, hygiene and self respect. The other reason is to prevent anyone sending a chandelier like they did after Hurricane Sandy. Or a set of used dentures, like was sent to a mission in Africa a few years ago. These kits provide what's needed the most, in the most efficient way possible.

Each kit includes:

- 4 large bars bath soap
- 1 plastic bottle shampoo (13-24 oz, placed in a resalable plastic bag)
- 4 large bare laundry soap
- 1 squeeze tube toothpaste (minimum 6 oz)
- 4 adult size toothbrushes
- 4 new bath towels (medium weight, dark or bright colors)
- 2wide tooth combs (6-8in)
- ^{324.00}1 fingernail clipper
- 1 box adhesive bandages (minimum 40 count, assorted)
- 1 package sanitary pads (18-24 count maxi thin)

Watch the video at mcc.org/kits/relief

MCC also needs money to complete and ship the kits. MCC needs money for emergency purchases like food. Also to stimulate local economies. In some countries the supplies may be available cheaper than us shipping them and whatever is bought locally may be better for their self esteem. We have three options for sharing. Get involved in helping MCC share God's love with our neighbors; not only because it's our church but because we can and want to love our neighbors. Pick one or more and commit to it. Prayer is not an option. Commit to pray for all the refugees and their homes.

- Option 1. Pick something off the list of needed supplies and bring it next Sunday.
- Option 2. Come help the next time a work day is scheduled for kits and comforters.
- Option 3. Contribute money. So far we have collected \$59 for our challenge. The kits cost about \$75 each.

By Sally Huber

Living in the Moment

Frank Laubach made a practice of living each moment with a spirit of openness and prayer. He writes:

"I feel simply carried along each hour, doing my part in a plan which is far beyond myself. This sense of cooperation with God in the little things is what astonishes me. I seem to have to make sure of only one thing now, and every other thing 'takes care of itself', or I prefer to say what is more true, God takes care of all the rest. My part is to live in this hour in continuous inner conversation with God and in perfect responsiveness to his will. To make this hour gloriously rich. This seems to be all I need to think about."

- from "Letters by a Modern Mystic"

Submitted by Cindy Snider

Prayer Requests

1. Please pray for our church as we discern our future, particularly in terms of space.
2. Please continue to pray for Jerry and Lori Acosta and their family and ministry. Pray for wisdom and discernment. Pray that their Sunday morning services will be well attended. Pray that those that attend will grow in faith.
3. Continue to pray for healing for Belinda.
4. Continue to pray for spiritual healing of the neighborhood of the church.
5. Continued prayers for Erna.
6. Pray for those needing work in our congregation.
7. Continued prayers for the youth of our congregation.

Servant Groups

Immigration Servant Group: Lois (264 3686) or Pat (262 2644)

Women's Discipleship Group: Cindy (832 0050)

NT Greek Reading Group: Jerry (263 0204)

Ladies Reading Group: Vangie (263 0204)

Hospitality Group: Geneva (262 2644) or Doreene (265 3848)

Human Trafficking

Large sporting events, like the Super Bowl, have a dark side and are magnets for sex trafficking. See <http://theresurgence.com/2012/02/02/sex-trafficking-at-the-super-bowl> for more details. Human trafficking is really human enslavement and includes forced child labor, sex trafficking and involuntary domestic labor. While all of these can exist during the Super Bowl, the majority of these crimes at events such as this involve the enslavement of minors, usually girls, for the purpose of selling sex to adult men.

While the number (in the thousands) may be disputed, based on the number of victims that have actually been found at past Super Bowls, studies indicate an increase in sex trafficking during these events. Regardless of the numbers, the games provide an opportunity to educate the public and hotel managers of the serious problem that exist. So while you enjoy the watching the Super Bowl, join me in praying for all those caught in this slavery and those trying to help.

By Sally Huber

MCS February 2013

www.mcswichita.net/calendar.htm

Verse of the Month: Luke 5:1-6 (Feb 3 & 10)

Song of the month: You walk along our shoreline (SJ 99) (Feb 3 & 10)

The River (Feb 17 & 24)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30 am: Prayer 10:00 am: Worship 11:45 am: Potluck	4	5	6 <i>Happy Birthday, Nancy Hurd</i>	7	8	9
10 9:30 am: Prayer 10:00 am: Worship <i>Happy Birthday, Tavyn McAdams</i>	11 <i>Happy Birthday, Karissa Truex</i>	12	13	14	15 <i>Happy Birthday, Geneva Hershberger</i>	16
17 9:30 am: Prayer 10:00 am: Worship 11:40 am: Church Life	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 9:30 am: Prayer 10:00 am: Worship	25	26	27	28		





Mennonite Church Of the Servant

Our mission is to welcome all people into a community covenanted to follow the way of Jesus Christ through

- Committing ourselves to radical and biblical spirituality
- Living in relational and accountable community
- Seeking Christ's peace within and in the world

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