



# Newsletter

## December 14: Immigration Update

Mennonite Church of the Servant and several other community organizations are hosting an Immigration Update on December 14, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. Beginning with a prayer service led by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Lupe Magdaleno from Sunflower Community Action will present an update on the current status of immigration policy in the U.S., Kansas, and Wichita and what we can do to get involved. All of the presentations will be presented in both English and Spanish.

At the end of the presentation, MCS will invite our guests to join us in a Faspa (light meal ) featuring food that Mennonite immigrants introduced to this country. See Lois to ask what you can bring.

## Shepherds on Call

**Dec. 7- 13**— Jerry  
**Dec. 14-20** — Bridget  
**Dec. 21-30** — Sally  
**Dec. 31— Jan 3**— Pat

## Focus on Mission

**Dec. 7** — Jesus the Refugee (Sally)  
**Dec. 14**— MCC Immigration (John)  
**Dec. 21**— Church Plant Update (Lois)

## Songs of the Month

"O Savior Rend the Heavens" (WB 175)  
 (Dec. 7, 14, 21)  
 "Beautiful Star of Bethlem" (Dec. 28,  
 Jan 4)

**Mennonite Church of the Servant**  
**2401 N. Woodland**  
**Wichita, KS 67204**  
**www.mcswichita.net**  
**Worship: Sundays, 10:00 a.m**  
**Jerry Truex, Teaching Minister**

## December Worship



Holy Communion

**December 7, SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT:** Worship Leader—Doug; Teaching - Pat; Communion; Potluck



**December 14, THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT:** Worship Leader—Cindy; Teaching—Jerry

**December 21, FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT:** Worship Leader—Vangie; Teaching—Lois; Christmas Choir



**December 24: CHRISTMAS EVE:** Worship Leader—Doug

**December 28: FIRST SUNDAY IN CHRISTMAS:** Worship Leaders: Brandon, Jerry, Doug; Healing Prayer

## Verse of the Month: Isaiah 40:3-5

3 A voice cries:  
 "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
 Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
 4 Every valley shall be lifted up,  
 and every mountain and hill be made low;  
 the uneven ground shall become level,  
 and the rough places a plain.  
 5 And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
 and all flesh shall see it together,  
 for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."



**Aposento Alto**  
**Iglesia Menonita**  
Wichita, KS  
(316) 440-5190

## **Church Plant Report**

### **December 2014**

As we are getting closer to the end of this year, we acknowledge God's presence in the midst of life.

Proxemics, or distances, may vary from one culture to another. For most Hispanics, culturally speaking, the personal distance, eighteen inches to four feet, is the space for close relationships between family, friends and the brethren; this might explain also, why we express affection with a handshake, a hug and or a kiss while greeting each other.

For the most part, this affection expressed by Hispanic culture is most likely to happen inside of the eighteen inches distance. For some other cultures this proximity expressed by Hispanics, it could be seen and understood as an invasion of personal space.

Understanding spaces-distances helps to understand how individuals and groups relate to one another. Therefore, in my view, spaces and relationships walk hand in hand with each other, and one needs to be aware of it.

At Aposento Alto, we are getting more comfortable and familiar with personal spaces. Yet, we need to be aware of these spaces and enjoy them without becoming invasive.

For several months, we have gathered for Bible study and outdoor activities, which has contributed to better relate and to trust each other in deeper ways.

Little by little, we are allowing and welcoming ourselves to enter each other's personal space not only for spiritual matters but also for the overall in life.

Beloved friends, for the past year we, Western District, Hope, Lorraine Avenue and Church of the Servant, have journeyed together and led by the Spirit towards church planting; birthing Aposento Alto. It has been a great missional journey full of hope, grace, and God's love.

Thanks be to God!

Byron Pellecer  
Iglesia Menonita Aposento Alto  
December 2014

## **Mennonite Disaster Service**

Volunteers are needed in High River Alberta, Far Rockaway New York, Crisfield Maryland, and Jamestown Colorado, right now. There are other projects still going on. But these are the most needed. Small groups are needed between Jan 5 and Feb 6, 2015. It might be a great way to spend your family vacation or a way for your Servant group to serve together.

- Sally Huber

### **Gifts**

This year our total for the **Alternative Gift Market** was \$29,000.00. I'm happy about that. Not only did we work hard to meet the needs of many missions, but we learned a lot about people and lands we've never seen.

I discovered that there aren't any **MCC** projects in the catalog, because MCC withdrew a few years ago to start their own catalog. MCC has options for giving gifts of Hope, Food, Water, Peace, Education, Livelyhoods, Health and Welcoming Immigrants. If you haven't already read or heard about these projects, I'll be happy to tell you about them.

I've lost track of our **school kit** total. Last month we delivered 6 completed kits and 21 partially complete kits. We can continue making them all year: they're one of the most requested MCC kits. **Refugee kits** are also needed. We have 2 complete, ready to go and a few extra supplies, which is good for a church our size. But we can keep going and give more. See me if you like a new list of contents/

- Sally Huber



## Carriage Factory Art Gallery: Bob Regier's "Journey Through Time"

The strands of Bob Regier's journey as an artist have been multiple, interwoven and inseparable. His exhibit at Carriage Factory Art Gallery in Newton beginning Saturday, December 6, will be a retrospective of his work over nearly six decades. During the opening reception starting at 7 p.m., Regier will share about the diverse activity that has been part of his visual journey. The reception is free and open to the public.

"Several etchings completed in 1960 represent the earliest work included in the exhibit," said Regier. "The mediums of printmaking, drawing, painting, photography and graphic design illustrate my visual path between 1960 and the present. Currently my preferred medium is the soft pastel."

Born in Mountain Lake, Minnesota, Regier says that he can trace the beginnings of his artistic bent to carefree childhood days, each day filled with promise and possibility. He notes that three of those in his loosely-knit play group have spent lifetimes in the visual arts, even though the first art class offered in their local school wasn't until their senior year.

Attending Bethel College in North Newton, Regier majored in social sciences with a minor in art. He later attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and received a master of fine arts from the University of Illinois. He taught art classes at Bethel College for 30 years, and the college's fine arts gallery was named after him in 2014.

"Bob Regier is an acclaimed Kansas artist and an icon in our community," said Susan Koehn, president of the gallery's board of directors. "We are excited to showcase a retrospective of his work and to honor his contributions to the gallery and to the world of art."

Regier says that most of his images are nourished by location -- the plains environment. "It's the landscape that has been given to me, the place that provides my bearings. I would hope that the work can be engaged on several levels -- pure visual language, symbolic content, and often oblique or direct allusions to our common, shared visual world. The greatest satisfaction comes when I sense that something in my work, whether it be pure visual language or shared visual experience, moves the viewer to a moment of heightened insight and awareness."

"JOURNEY THROUGH TIME, Bob Regier: a retrospective" will be on display at Carriage Factory Art Gallery, 128 E. Sixth St., Newton, Dec.6 through Jan 31. For more information, contact the gallery at [316-284-2749](tel:316-284-2749).

## That First Christmas Day

There was no tinsel on the trees,  
There was no Santa on a sleigh,  
No toys or brightly wrapped-up gifts,  
Were there on that first Christmas day.

No lights were strung along the street,  
No Christmas lists of names were made,  
No gifts were advertised in stores  
For folks to buy, to sell, or trade.

Such customs came as time rolled on  
To help us celebrate with cheer.  
But in that blessed Christmastime  
God's message always will be clear.

There was a mother and a child,  
And in a manger filled with hay,  
Our Savior, Jesus, God's own Son  
Was born on that first Christmas day.

-Edma Massimilla

(Submitted by Jenny Hurd)

## Interconnected

Last Friday I went to help with the Lords Diner Truck at Evergreen Park. I got the easy job, standing outside to document the statics for the government paperwork. It was a beautiful evening. Suddenly the wind picked up and it got cold enough for me to go to the car to get my coat. Then the sky turned a gorgeous shade of pink with dark blue strips behind the outlines of dark leaf-less trees. It was so awesome, I had to call the volunteers at work inside to come look.

Isn't there a hymn about nature displaying "God's resplendent glory"? Within 20 minutes it was all gone and the sky was dark. If I hadn't been in the right place at the right time I might have missed this Holy display. The right place is being available to help when needed. The right time is the evening when hungry people come to eat supper. Both the right place and the right time were benefits or responding to what I believe God wanted me to be doing that evening.

The other benefit is our Interconnectedness in Christ. Like Romans 12:5 or Philippians 2:17. This beautiful display reminded me of Russell J, talking about his favorite color, sky blue-pink. And Vangie T. who crafted plates with the darkening sky and the outline of the trees. And Kathleen G. who liked to go canoeing at Camp Mennoscah to enjoy the silence of nature. All of us are connected somehow in God's glory.

-Sally Huber

## December 2014 CALENDAR

All calendar items are at the MCS building unless indicated by \* To put an item on the calendar, contact Brandon Morris, MCS Intern. Brandon may be contacted at (316) 300=7744 or strwrzfn@gmail.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Dec. 7</b> 9:00 Children's SS Gds. 3-6 10:00 Worship/ Communion/ Potluck	<b>8</b> <b>John 6</b>	<b>9</b> <b>John 7</b>  7-8 p.m. Spiritu- al Growth Group (last session until February)	<b>10</b> <b>John 8</b>  1:30 NT Greek*	<b>11</b> <b>John 9</b>  7-8 p.m. Bible Study	<b>12</b> <b>John 10</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9:00 Children's SS Gds. 3-6 10:00 Worship 3:00 Immigration Update	<b>15</b> <b>John 11</b>  2:30 Shep- herds*  7:30 Immigra- tion Servant Group*	<b>16</b> <b>John 12</b>	<b>17</b> <b>John 13</b>  <i>Happy Birthday, Theresa Turner!</i>  8:00 a.m. Mis- sion and Service Committee*  1:30 NT Greek*  7:00 Church Council	<b>18</b> <b>John 14</b>  7-8 p.m. Bible Study	<b>19</b> <b>John 15</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:00 Children's SS, Gds, 3-6 10:00 Worship	<b>22</b> <b>John 16</b>	<b>23</b> <b>John 17</b>	<b>24</b> <b>John 18</b>  <i>Happy Birthday, Robert Esau- Rutherford!</i>  7:00 Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> <b>John 19</b> <b>CHRISTMAS</b>  <i>Happy Birthday, Christian Cheaney!</i>	<b>26</b> <b>John 20</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 10:00 Worship; Healing Prayer	<b>29</b> <b>John 21</b>	<b>30</b> <b>1 Thess 1</b>	<b>31</b> <b>1 Thess 2</b>	<b>Jan 1</b> <b>1 Thess 3</b>  <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b>	<b>2</b> <b>1 Thess 4</b>	<b>3</b>