



Newsletter

Volume 40 No. 4 April 2015

Mennonite Church of the Servant

2401 N. Woodland

Wichita, KS 67204

www.mcswichita.net

Worship: Sundays, 10:00 a.m

Jerry Truex, Teaching Minister



MAY 9-10

The annual Mennonite Church of the Servant retreat will be held at Camp Mennoscah on May 9-10 from 9:00 Saturday through Sunday noon.

Special guest speaker, **Philip St. Romain**, will give two presentations on "**The Four Conversions.**" Philip is a spiritual director, retreat leader, and author, and you won't want to miss his sessions. There will also be plenty of free time to enjoy the beauty of the prairie, a campfire Saturday evening, and Sunday morning worship at 9:00 a.m.

Costs for the retreat are \$65.00 per room (1-2 people) and \$15.00 per additional person in the same room. Those not staying overnight pay a \$7.00 day fee (adults) or \$4.00 for children. There will also be 4 meals and snacks at a reasonable cost. If you cannot afford the full cost, let Vangie know how much (if any) you can afford.

To register for the retreat, contact Vangie.

WORSHIP AT MCS

Covenanting Service, April 2

Mennonite Church of the Servant's annual Covenanting Service provides an opportunity to express, for the coming year, a commitment to follow Christ through this community (a copy of the covenant is on page 2). Lois will lead this service. Bring finger food to share for the covenant meal. Food should be ready to set on the table in time for the service which begins at 6:30 p.m.,



Easter Service. April 5

Celebrate the risen Christ at 10:00 a.m. on April 4. Doug will lead worship and Lois will bring the teaching. There will be *no potluck* after worship.

Worship Theme:

Faith along the Lifespan

April 12 (Easter 2): Worship Leader—Vangie/Teaching—Jerry

April 19 (Easter 3): Worship Leader—Bret; Teaching—Pat; **Church Life** meeting following worship

April 26 (Easter 4): Worship Leader—Doug; Teaching—Jerry; Healing Prayer

Song of the Month:

"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry" (SJ 89)

Verse of the Month:

Psalm 71:17-19

O God, from my youth you have taught me... So even to old age and grey hairs, O God, do not forsake me"

(Ps. 17-18, excerpts)

The Covenant of Mennonite Church of the Servant

We commit ourselves to following Jesus Christ, through whom God has made friends with the world and in whom we continue the work of reconciliation.

We commit ourselves to each other, the church, to love our brothers and sisters in God's family, sharing our decisions, our talents, our time, and our possessions.

We commit ourselves to caring for the world, to bringing good news to the poor and setting free the oppressed, to proclaiming Jesus the Servant as Liberator and Lord.

We commit ourselves to the way of the cross, to a life of simplicity and prayer, in this is our joy, peace, and new life

Everence

Barrick, Belinda and Sally went to a recent Advocate Appreciation Dinner. Some of the information they received will be displayed on the bulletin board. Sally also has copies of the "Personal Financial Affairs Directory" and "Making Your Wishes Known," for end-of-life planning. Sally also has one copy of "Planning Your Financial Journey" that you can borrow.

Computer problems led to reports that Everence didn't receive, so matching funds will be less than in 2014. Hopefully, there won't be any major crises this year and we'll regain our status this year.

Map Out Your Financial Future:

Hear Shawn Persing, Director of Financial Planning for Everence, at 7PM on April 7, 2015, at Faith Mennonite Church, 2100 N. Anderson in Newton. You'll learn how financial planning from Everence can impact your life, how accomplishing your financial goals can be tied to your financial planning, how having a plan can help you avoid costly financial mistakes, and how integrating your faith with your financial decisions can help change your world. For more information or to RSVP (by March 31), please call Darlene Buller at (877) 467-7294 or darene.buller@everence.com



Church Plant Report April 2015

'Café por la Paz' is a missional approach in our hosting community. By far, we have had many wonderful experiences with several patrons at Spin City Laundromat. Yet, we became aware that people are asking, for the most part, two typical questions: Why are you doing this? And what is the catch? However, two weeks ago a new unexpected question emerged: Are you Mennonite?

While serving 'Café por la Paz' (Peace Coffee) and homemade cookies with a Mennonite flare, a lady with a beautiful and inquisitive smile approached me and asked of me "Are you Mennonite?" In all honesty, I did not see that coming! I smiled and replied back "Yes, I am."

My response initiated a long conversation about the Christian faith from a Mennonite perspective and after sharing Jesus' story, 'Julietta' was moved to attend Aposento Alto's worship and see what is going on!

Our job as Church is to provoke people to have a personal relationship with Christ and a transformational life experience. This mysterious God, revealed in Jesus Christ, called us to be his followers and invited us to a kingdom living. Come and see, go and tell.

"⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵ even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ -by grace you have been saved" (Ephesians 2:4-5 NRSV).

*Byron Pellecer
Iglesia Menonita Aposento Alto
April, 2015*

JOIN APOSTENTO ALTO...

For Worship: Bi-lingual worship in the MCS building, Sunday, April 5 & 19, 5:30 p.m.

For Fun: Picnic in Woodland Park, Sunday, April 12, 4:00 p.m. Hot dogs and drinks provided; please bring side dishes.

Mennonite Disaster Service

Three Summer Youth projects are planned for July and August. Each of the locations for 2015 offer different perspectives on disaster response. Two offer opportunities to learn construction and disaster preparedness. The third one offers participation in long-term MDS disaster response.

It's been more than 2 years since Superstorm Sandy cut a deadly swath of destruction along the Eastern Seaboard of the US. In the economically depressed community of Crisfield, Maryland, along the Eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay, there's an ongoing need to repair homes damaged by floods and high winds. The Summer Youth Program offers 2 weeks in June where the group can assist MDS volunteers in the rebuilding effort.

In Divide, Colorado, at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp, there is a need for building new structures, fire mitigation around the camp and trail maintenance. There are 6 weeks available between Mid-June to early August to participate in this group.

And at Redberry Bible Camp near Redberry Saskatchewan, the work includes construction and building projects during the 4 weeks of July.

Food and lodging are covered while they're in the program, but help is needed for helping with transportation and spending. If you want to support these young people, contact Sally.

For ev'ry pain we must bear,
For ev'ry burden, ev'ry care,
There's a reason.

For ev'ry grief that bows the head,
For ev'ry teardrop that is shed,
There's a reason.

For ev'ry hurt, for ev'ry plight,
For ev'ry lonely, pain-racked night,
There's a reason.

But if we trust God, as we should,
It will turn out for our good.
He knows the reason.

- Author Unknown (Submitted by Jenny Hurd)

The Overflow Shelter

The Overflow Shelter is available from November through March to accommodate those you who don't have room in the other shelters when it's really cold. In the meantime, 86 in the overflow shelter is 86 too many. It demonstrates that we could do better in preventing homelessness in our community.

This month our church reenacted an event we used to do annually. But it certainly wasn't anything like it was in the "good old days."

We served supper to 81 men and breakfast the next morning to 86 men. Seven people from our church participated. That's 25% of our membership. That's something to be very proud of, even though Jesus said we not supposed to be proud of our good deeds. One person from Praise Chapel participated. Nine women and one husband from Church Women United participated.

We prepared the chili, stew and corn bread at St Paul's Methodist Church in the morning. Then we transported it *very carefully* in 6 plastic buckets, up the stairs to my new car, drove *very slowly* to the shelter and carried it down the steps to re-heat. We didn't spill any and served most of it. We also served fruit and 7 cakes for dessert. At 5AM the next day, we came with 6 egg casseroles, 6 boxes of cereal, 5 gallons of milk and 7 breads to make toast and lots of peanut butter.

This was a real adventure for all of us. We will try again next year.



.Shepherds on Call for April:

March 29-April 4—Bridget

April 5-11— Sally

April 12-18—Lois

April 19—25— Jerry

April 26-May 1-2— Pat

The Tuesday Spiritual Growth Group

resumes on April 14, from 7-8 p.m. The first 20 minutes will be silent prayer, followed by teaching, led by Jerry

Focus on Mission in April:

12—MCC (John)

19— Church Plant Report (TBA)

26— Mennonite USA (Pat)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar. 29	30	31	Apr 1	2	3	4
			7-8 Lent Seminar	6:30 Covenanting Service		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00 Sunday School (Grades 3-5) 10:00 Worship (Communion) 5:30 Aposento Alto Worship	1:30 Shepherds*	7:00 Church Council	1:30 NT Greek*	Happy Birthday, Pat Cameron!		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 Sunday School (Grades 3-5) 10:00 Worship 11:30 Church Life 4:00 Aposento Alto Picnic*	7:30 Immigration Servant Group*	7:00 Spiritual Growth Group	1:30 NT Greek*	Happy Birthday, Cody Esau-Rutherford!	7:00 Movie Night: <i>Which Way Home</i>	
19	20	22	23	24	25	26
9:00 Sunday School (Grades 3-5) 10:00 Worship 5:30 Aposento Alto Worship		Happy Birthday, Kiera Montgomery! 7:00 Spiritual Growth Group	Happy Birthday, Jeanette Stucky! 1:30 NT Greek*	8:00 am Mission & Service Comm.		Happy Birthday, Alex Esau-Rutherford!
27	28	29	30	May 1	2	3
9:00 Sunday School (Grades 3-5) 10:00 Worship, <i>Happy Birthday, Warren Thanmithak !</i>	7:30 Immigration Servant Group*	7:00 Spiritual Growth Group	1:30 NT Greek*			