



Newsletter

Volume 40 No. 7 July 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

PASTOR/CONGREGATION EVALUATION

In July and August, our church will be evaluating the congregation and its pastoral leadership. The process begins with the **Church Life meeting on July 19**, when we will gather in focus groups to discuss the following questions:

About our congregation:

1. What aspects about our congregation do you appreciate the most? Tell a story to illustrate.
2. In what area of our congregational life and mission would you like to see more growth?

About our teaching minister:

1. What aspects of the teaching minister's ministry do you especially value? Tell a story to illustrate.
2. In what aspects, if any, would you like to see the teaching minister grow in ministry?
3. How can we as a congregation strengthen our teaching minister's ministry among us?

A light lunch will be provided. Be thinking of these questions and how you will respond to them for our **Church Life meeting on July 19**.

spiritual
GROWTH

SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUP

The Spiritual Growth Group is continuing to focus on centering prayer and the Enneagram. New participants are welcome, Tuesday nights from 7–8 p.m.

WORSHIP AT MCS



Holy Communion

July 5: Scripture—Ps 107; Worship Leader—Doug; Teaching—Jerry; Communion; Potluck



July 12: Scripture—1st Corinthians; Worship Leader—Bret; Teaching—Jerry

July 19: Scripture—1st Corinthians; Worship Leader—Geneva; Teaching—Pat; Church Life

July 26: Scripture—1st Corinthians; Worship Leader—Doug; Teaching—Lois; Healing Prayer

SHEPHERDS ON CALL

June 28—July 5—Jerry

July 5-11— Pat

July 12-18— Bridget

July 19-26— Sally

July 27—Aug 1—Lois

FOCUS ON MISSION

Focus on Mission topics in July will include a report on the MC-USA Convention, the MCC Native American pilgrimage, and international issues. Specific dates are to be announced.

"KNOW YOUR RIGHTS"

The Immigration Servant Group and Aposento Alto are hosting a "Know Your Rights" seminar on Sunday, July 19, at 4:00 p.m. Priscilla Orta-Wenner, from Sunflower Community Action, will provide leadership for the seminar, which will be presented in both Spanish and English. Immigrants from our neighborhood, and anyone else interested in the legal rights of undocumented immigrants, are welcome to attend.

PEACE POETRY

People of Faith for Peace is sponsoring a series of readings by local poets on peace and justice themes. The readings will be held on July 7 at Watermark Books, 4701 E. Douglas (in the Lincoln Heights Village Shopping Center) and on July 21 at the R Coffeehouse, 11th and Bitting in Riverside. The readings begin at 6:00 p.m.



WICHITA COALITION AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

The Wichita Coalition Against Gun Violence was active twenty years ago, successfully passing a gun safety ordinance, one of the strongest in the state. The Coalition has been reactivated to challenge the recent state laws that require no background checks or firearms training before purchasing a lethal weapon. The next event is on July 17, the one month anniversary of the Charleston church shooting (time and place pending). For more information, contact Jerry or Pat.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL JULY 18

The Peace and Social Justice Center is holding its annual Ice Cream Social and concert on Saturday, July 18 at the Center, 1407 N. Topeka. No reservations are required. For more information, contact Pat.



Church Report July 2015

"I would like to study the Bible, I know this is in my heart. The sad part of this is that I don't know how to do it. To top it off, I don't find the necessary help."

This phrase filled my heart with mixed emotions. On one hand, I was joyful to hear such expression from a person whose heart is for God. At the same time, I felt challenged and compelled to offer help in finding ways to study the Bible.

As the conversation continued, I discovered that Oscar wants to study the Bible in order to feed his soul and in response to this burning calling to share God's Word with those around him. His work schedule and long hours impedes him to fulfill his dreams and desires, proper of a hungry heart for Christ.

I wonder if this was what the disciples on the way to Emmaus felt when they walked in the midst of dusty and arid roads. Wanting to know and understand more the latest events in Jerusalem. Then, Jesus, the Living Word of God, made himself known and revealed to these hungry souls. It was on their own terms and conditions that Jesus met them and from there on, their transformational process continued.

We will meet with Oscar on Wednesday mornings for Bible study. It will be hosted at the Laundromat where Café por la Paz (Peace Coffee) took place. Without a doubt, my interaction with Oscar was the Holy Spirit whispering in my ears and heart.

17 He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep (John 21:17 NRSV)

Please pray for Aposento Alto's families and every single soul that has, is and will continue hearing the gospel of Christ.

Byron Pellecer
Iglesia Menonita Aposento Alto
July 2015

Treasures of Earth

Rejoice in the Lord,
It's a beautiful day;
There are sunshine and flowers
Here on display.

The birds are all singing
Wherever they go,
Some high in the treetops,
Some singing below.

And the smallest of wren
Seems are building a nest,
For to raise a bird family,
A mother's own quest.

And the little grey squirrel
Loves to romp in my yard;
There's a fence that he runs
And he never gets tired.

It's the prettiest sight,
I observed it today;
There are trees in my yard
And a flower display.

And I feel so content
With the sights, "so it seems;"
They are treasures of earth
And the loveliest scene.

Katherine Smith Matheney
(Submitted by Jenny Hurd)



Mennonite Church USA: Who We Are

95,308
Mennonite Church USA is made up of more than 95,000 adult members.

1 of 40
Mennonite Church USA is one of about 40 different Mennonite groups in the United States. While we share a common faith ancestry with these groups, we may vary in the way we dress, worship, and relate to the world.

21
There are 21 area conferences within Mennonite Church USA. Conferences are made up of local congregations. Area conferences allow local congregations to pool their resources giving them the ability to do more together, as a community than by themselves.

Mennonites are

... Christians

We believe in the lordship and saving grace of Jesus Christ. We yearn to grow more like Christ. We believe in the triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

... Anabaptists

We are neither Catholic nor Protestant, but we share ties to those streams of Christianity. We cooperate as a sign of our unity in Christ and in ways that extend the reign of God's Kingdom on earth. We are known as "Anabaptists" (not anti-Baptist) – meaning "rebaptizers."

... named after Menno Simons

While we called ourselves "Anabaptists" in the 1500s, others nicknamed us the "Mennonites" after one of our early leaders, Menno Simons, a Catholic priest who aligned himself with the Anabaptists in 1536. The nickname stuck. And after 500 years, we're still known as the Mennonites.

Mennonites are not

... a closed group

Mennonites value the sense of family and community that comes with a shared vision of following Jesus Christ, accountability to one another, and the ability to agree and disagree in love. We are not a closed group. You are welcome to join us as together we follow Jesus and pursue Christ's purpose in the world. Our vision is one of healing and hope. God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.

... Amish

We find that many people asking about Mennonites are actually thinking of the Amish or "Old Order Mennonites." Mennonites and Amish come from the same Anabaptist tradition begun in the 16th century, but there are differences in how we live out our Christian values. The distinctiveness of the Amish is in their separation from the society around them. They generally shun modern technology, keep out of political and secular involvements and dress plainly.

(From Mennonite Church USA website <http://mennoniteusa.org>)

July 2015 CALENDAR

All calendar items are at the MCS building unless indicated by * To put an item on the calendar, contact Jerry Truex

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURS	FRI	SATURDAY
June 28	29	30	July 1	2	3	4
10:00 Worship 11:30 Church Life 5:30 Aposento Alto Drive-In Movie	7:30 Immigration Servant Group*	<i>MC-USA Convention begins*</i> 7:00 Spiritual Growth Group	<i>Happy Birthday, Jerry Truex!</i> 1:30 NT Greek*			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:00 Worship (Communion) 11:45 Potluck <i>MC-USA Convention Ends *</i>	7:30 Immigration Servant Group*	7:00 Spiritual Growth Group	1:30 NT Greek*	<i>Happy Birthday, Vangie Truex!!</i>		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:00 Worship 5:30 Aposento Alto Worship	7:00 Church Council	<i>Happy Birthday, Bridget Siedler!!</i> 7:00 Spiritual Growth Group	1:30 NT Greek*			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:00 Worship 11:45 Church Life 4:00 "Know Your Rights" Seminar	7:30 Immigration Servant Group*	7:00 Spiritual Growth Group	1:30 NT Greek* 7:00 Worship Committee			!
26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1
10:00 Worship, (Healing Prayer) 5:30 Aposento Alto Worship		7:00 Spiritual Growth Group	1:30 NT Greek*	<i>Happy Birthday, Warren Cheaney!!</i>		