



Newsletter

Volume 40 No. 12 December, 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

Confession of Faith Study: You are invited to study the Mennonite Confession of Faith on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, from 11:40-12:10.

MCC Relief Kits

The supply of Relief Kits is low. We need a supply on hand to be ready to go in case of natural disasters, violence and other emergencies. It's our chance to share Christ's love with those who are suffering; our chance to let them know we care.

Each kit contains:

- 4 large bath bars bath soap
- 1 plastic bottle shampoo in a reclosable plastic bag (already donated)
- 4 adult size toothbrushes (already donated)
- 4 new large fluffy bright colored bath towels
- 2 wide tooth combs
- 1 quality nail clipper
- 1 box bandages, approximately 40 count assorted sizes
- 1 pack Sanitary pads, THIN MAXI, 18-24 count
- 4 large bars laundry soap (already donated)

Watch the video about Relief Kits on the MCC web site. And pray for the many people who will benefit from the love we share through Relief Kits.

The Mennonite

Subscriptions to *The Mennonite* for 2016 are \$37. **The deadline for ordering is Sunday Dec 6.** Let Jeanette know if you want to subscribe. Payment is due when ordering.

WORSHIP AT MCS



Holy Communion

December 6: Second Sunday in Advent; Theme - "The Path of Mercy;"

Worship Leader - Doug; Teaching - Jerry; Communion; Focus on Mission - Sharing Fund; Potluck



December 13: Third Sunday in Advent;

Theme - "The Path of Trust;" Worship Leader: Bret; Teaching: Jerry; Focus on Mission: MCC & Global Refugee Crisis

December 20: Fourth Sunday in Advent:

Theme - "The Path of Love;" Worship Leader - Geneva; Teaching—Pat; Focus on Mission— Refugees in Wichita

Song of the Month during Advent: "There is more love somewhere" (SJ 109)

Verse of month during Advent: Jer. 33:15



Christmas Eve, December 24, 7:00 p.m.: - Lessons & Carols; Worship Leader—Vangie

December 27: First Sunday after Christmas:
Theme— "The Path of Service;" Worship Leader—Doug; Teaching—Jerry; Healing Prayer

Make no one a project: A contemplation and confession

By Jerry

I believe we need to detach from making other people our projects. I admit, that sounds contrary to Christ's mandate to love and serve others. However, I am convinced that we *cannot* love and serve others unless we detached from trying to control them. When we step back, we give room for God and space for the other person. In this way, we trust God and also the person.

In practicing this type of detachment (or non-attachment), I try to watch the events of another person's life unfold without trying to control the person or "jerry-rig" the situation to get the outcome "I" want. I can guarantee you that whatever "I" want for another is based only on the small sliver of reality that I can see and usually on what my ego wants, not what the person needs. For me, stepping back includes reminding myself that "fixing" people and situations is above my pay grade.

Over the years, I've discovered that inserting myself in the lives of others is not usually in my best interest and, more importantly, not in the best interest of others. Stepping back not only allows room for God, but it allows the other person the opportunity to assume self-responsibility and then to enjoy the consequences of their own choices and actions without my ego demanding half the laurel wreath.

Of course, there are times when direct intervention is required—may God help us—but I believe those times are rare. The chaos of others need not attract us. Winning an argument need not engage us. Being present and witnessing the journey of someone else is usually all that is required and nothing more.



December 10: Bridge Vigil to Welcome Refugees

After the terrorist attacks in Paris on November 13, a wave of anti-refugee sentiment suddenly affected governors, including Sam Brownback. In declaring their states closed to refugees, these politicians are fanning people's fears based on ignorance of the basics of our screening system for displaced people.

In response, People of Faith for Peace (a local group of Mennonites, Quakers, and other pastors and church leaders) will commemorate Human Rights Day on the official United Nations-declared day, Thursday, December 10th, with an hour-long vigil on the Douglas Ave. Bridge (by the Drury Hotel). A banner will be displayed with a message of support for welcoming refugees to Wichita. Other banners and signs are welcome. The vigil begins at 5:30 p.m.

December 13: Orange Walk Against Gun Violence

Yet another mass shooting has devastated an American community, this time in San Bernardino, California.

Right before the third anniversary of the Sandy Hook shooting, Moms Demand Action and Everytown for Gun Safety will gather all across the country to participate in Orange Walks to honor all of the lives lost to gun violence in America, and show just how determined we are to end it.

Orange is the color hunters wear to stay safe and visible in the woods. It represents the value of human life, and it's become a powerful symbol of the gun violence prevention movement.

The Wichita event will be on Sunday, December 13, at 2:00 PM, starting and ending at Woodland United Methodist Church, 1100 W. 15th St.



DECEMBER 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURS	FRI	SATURDAY
<p style="text-align: right;">Dec. 6</p> <p>10:00 Worship (Communion)/ Pre-School—K Sunday School</p> <p>11:45 Potluck</p>	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School (older elementary)</p> <p>10:00 Worship/Pre-School—K Sunday School</p> <p>11::40 Confession of Faith Study</p> <p>5:30 Aposento Alto Worship and Potluck</p>	14	15	16	17	18	19
	7:30 Immigration Servant Group*		1:30 NT Greek*	<p><i>Happy Birthday, Theresa Turner!</i></p> <p>11:00 Wichita Coalition Against Gun Violence</p> <p>6:00 Church Council</p> <p>7:30 Worship Committee</p>	<p>8:00 a.m. Mission & Service Committee*</p> <p>11:30 Shepherds *</p>	
<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School (older elementary)</p> <p>10:00 Worship /Pre-School—K Sunday School</p> <p>11:45 Church Life</p> <p>12:30 Women's Reading Group</p>	21	22	23	24	25	26
			1:30 NT Greek*	<p><i>CHRISTMAS EVE</i></p> <p><i>Happy Birthday, Robert Esau-Rutherford!</i></p> <p>7:00 Christmas Eve service</p>	<p><i>CHRISTMAS DAY</i></p> <p>Happy Birthday, Christian Cheaney!</p>	
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>10:00 Worship (Healing Prayer)/ Pre-School—K Sunday School</p> <p>11:40 Confession of Faith Study</p> <p>5:30 Aposento Alto Worship</p>	28	29	30	31	Jan 1	2
			1:30 NT Greek*	<p><i>NEW YEAR'S EVE</i></p>	<p><i>NEW YEAR'S DAY</i></p>	