

**Welcome!**

Today we worship God in the beauty of God's creation next to the Ninnescah river! As we worship together as a family of faith, we commit ourselves to both nurture, mentor, and create space for the faith development of the next generation. We are privileged to be a part of the milestones of parent/child dedication and a young believer's decision to be baptized.



**GATHERING TO WORSHIP**

**Gathering Music**

Eric Schrag and Kevin Gaeddert

**Welcome**

Pastor Caleb Yoder

**Call to Worship and Invocation**

Based on Psalm 139

Lord, You have searched me, and you know me.

**You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.**

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

**If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.**

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,

**even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.**

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

***I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;***

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place

**All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.**

Search us, God, and know our hearts; test us and know our anxious thoughts.

***See if there is any offensive way in us, and lead us in the way everlasting.***

**Rosebud Blessing** for Savannah Hein, daughter of Josh and Nicole Hein

**Gathering Song**

*This is my Father's world*

HWB 154

This is my Father's world,  
and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and 'round me rings  
the music of the spheres.  
This is my Father's world, I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas  
his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,  
he shines in all that's fair.  
In the rustling grass I hear him pass,  
he speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world,  
the birds their carols raise,  
the morning light, the lily white  
declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong  
God is the ruler yet.

This is my Father's world,  
the battle is not done.  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,  
and earth and heav'n be one.

**Morning Prayer**

Pastor Lois Harder

**Song of Blessing**

*Child of blessing, child of promise*

HWB 620

Child of blessing, child of promise,  
love's creation, loved indeed!  
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits,  
into joy and laughter lead.

Child of joy, our dearest treasure,  
God's you are, from God you came.  
Back to God we humbly give you,  
Blessing you in Jesus' name.

Child of God, your loving Parent, / learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship, / trust and love God more than all.

### HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Scripture Reading** Mark 10:13-16, Jeremiah 1:5 Ann Hiebert

**Reflection on Child and Parent Dedication** Pastor Lois

**Child/Parent Dedication** Pastors Caleb and Lois

Logan Alan Unrau, son of Jared and Laura Unrau  
Josiah Benjamin Yoder, son of Caleb and Beth Yoder  
Savannah Rose Hein, daughter of Josh and Nicole Hein

**\*Congregational Covenant** HWB 791

*You have offered your children to the strong and tender providence of God.*

*We rejoice with you and give thanks for the gift of your children.*

*We promise, with humility and seriousness, to share in your child's nurture and well being.*

*We will support, by our example and words, your efforts to provide a loving and caring home, where trust in God grows and Christ's way is chosen.*

*Our prayers will be with you and for you.*

*May our shared life and witness help make your task both joyful and fruitful.*

**Worship Music** Eric Schrag and Kevin Gaeddert

**Scripture Reading** Romans 6:3-8, 1 Corinthians 12:12-20 Ann Hiebert

**Reflections on Baptism** Pastor Caleb

**Faith sharing and baptismal vows** Lizzie Schmucker, Ann Hiebert, and pastors

**Baptism** (Baptism will take place in the river)

**Lizzie Schmucker** – *“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.” ~Philippians 4:4-5 (NIV)*

Mentor: Ann Hiebert

### SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**\*Congregational covenant of baptism**

*As sisters and brothers in the body of Christ and members of Alexanderwohl,  
we welcome you, Lizzie, as a sister into Christ's church.*

*We witness to the work of the Holy Spirit who has led you to God as the source of your life,  
and to Jesus as Savior and Lord.*

*We covenant to encourage you in faith,  
to rejoice with you in joy, to support you in suffering,  
to guide you in confusion, to listen to the word God speaks in you,  
and to call out the gifts the Holy Spirit is creating in you.*

*We thank God for your presence in the body of Christ,  
and we ask for God's wisdom and strength for you all the days of your life.*

**Worship With Our Tithes and Offerings** First Fruits Giving

**Sending Song** Zephaniah 3:17 SWJ 28

The Lord your God is with you, He will quiet you with His love,  
He is mighty to save, He will rejoice over you with singing,  
He will take great joy in you, Alleluia!

**Meal blessing and Benediction** Pastor Caleb

Special thanks to Eric Schrag and Kevin Gaeddert and their families, Ann Hiebert, Lizzie Schmucker, Renae Peters, Travis Duerksen, David Esau and Delton Voth, for their help with making this unique worship service possible.

**Next Sunday** we continue our worship focus through the book of Revelation. You are encouraged to read Revelation chapters 4-5 in preparation. The focus scripture reading will be from Revelation 5. We will meet outdoors again and will celebrate World-Wide Communion together.

## *Praying for our congregation and beyond*

- ❖ We pray for Lizzie Schmucker as she makes a public testimony of faith through her baptism and as she continues her faith journey of following Jesus, which may lead to costly choices. We pray for wisdom and intentionality to be a mentoring congregation for young followers of Jesus.
- ❖ We pray for the families dedicating their children and themselves to nurturing upbringing, creating space for Christian faith to develop and grow with the support of Alexanderwohl. We pray for Logan and his parents Jared and Laura Unrau; for Josiah and his parents Caleb and Beth Yoder, and for Savannah and her parents Josh and Nicole Hein.
- ❖ We continue to pray for healing for Darla Banman. She returned to the Newton Medical Center this week with ongoing health issues and concerns. We give thanks for the improvement she has felt with a new combination of medications.
- ❖ We pray for Matt Voth as the doctors work to eliminate blood clots that have been causing him pain. We are grateful that the clots were finally discovered and we pray for Matt's full recovery soon.
- ❖ We pray for the family of Bob Unruh who passed away on Monday, September 21, at Bethesda at age 92. Erlene (Boese) Unruh is Bob's widow and a sister to Esther Schmidt and Meribeth Schmidt.
- ❖ We pray for all families who have lost loved ones to COVID-19 locally and in our country. We lament that our national toll has passed the grim milestone of 200,000 this past week, as well as the heavier toll of the virus for the poor, and for Black and Latino/a Americans.
- ❖ We pray for Alberto and Aurora Parchmont, who are pastors of Iglesia Menonita Casa del Alfarero (House of the Potter Mennonite Church) in Pasadena, TX. Alberto's mother died last week due to COVID-related and other health complications, just 2 months after losing Aurora's brother due to COVID-related complications.

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**Deacons:**  
**Sandy Banman**  
**Marilyn Unruh Flaming**  
**Ruth Goertzen**  
**Cindy Hastings**  
**Bryant Miller**  
**Jim Schmidt**

If you would appreciate a porch visit or phone call from one of the pastors or deacons, please feel free to contact us!

### Coming Events

Today, September 27	10:30 am	Church retreat at Camp Mennoscah
Monday, September 28	2:00 pm	Prayer Team
Tuesday, September 29	9:30 am	Staff Meeting
Wednesday, September 30	7:00 pm	Children's Midweek Staff Meeting
Sunday, October 4	10:00 am	World Communion – outdoor service
	3:00 pm	Bluegrass Grand Porch Visit
Wednesday, October 7	6:45 pm	Faith formation for ages 3 through grade 12
	7:00 pm	Board of Trustees
Sunday, October 11	10:00 am	Anticipated in-person indoor service
Sunday, October 18		Carry-out Fundraiser Meal for students attending Mennonite Colleges
Sunday, October 25	1:30 pm	Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk
Sunday, November 1	2:00 am	Daylight Saving Time Ends (set clocks back 1 hour)

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**From the Faith Formation Task Force** – After several meetings, Wednesday evening plans have developed as follows: Planned activities are ONLY for children and youth at this point (age 3 through High School) and will begin on Wednesday, October 7 and go through Wednesday, November 18. There will be no supper, no Bible study, no Chancel choir rehearsal, no bell choir (and no Sunday morning Sunday school). Children and youth activities will run from 6:45-7:30 p.m. (7:45 for the Youth group). Direct communication regarding logistics, and health and safety guidelines will happen between midweek leaders and parents. The Task Force remains committed to the safety of our church family and is hopeful that additional activities can be reinstated in due time. Re-assessment of this current plan will be made at the end of the fall midweek season. Thanks for your input, Pastor Lois and Susan

**Mark your calendars now for the Bluegrass Grand Porch Visit on October 4 in the church yard from 3 - 4:30 p.m.** Everyone is invited to come and enjoy socially-distanced fellowship and bluegrass music from several local groups. The FM radio station will be going, so staying in your car is also an option. Please bring a chair, snacks and drinks, wear a mask and enjoy some live music and fellowship! An offering will be taken to support MCC and New Hope Shelter. Rain cancels.

**Save the Date:** This year's Goessel Area Harvest Giving Walk will be held on **Sunday, October 25** at 1:30pm beginning at the Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church shelter house. This annual walk - of 1-6 miles - benefits MCC and the Tabor Food Pantry. Donation envelopes will be available from your church recruiter in the coming weeks and this year we are offering an online fundraising option as well. Just go to <https://runsignup.com/Race/Donate/99515/BecomeFundraiser> to set up your personal fundraising page. Mark your calendars, start fundraising, and plan to attend this year's event!

**Current and upcoming devotionals** (*Upper Room & Rejoice!*) are available in the NE entryway for purchase.

## CONFERENCE PRAYER REQUESTS

### Western District Conference

Pray for the WDC Church Planting Commission and church planters as they listen for the Holy Spirit's leading for church development in the midst of the ongoing pandemic.

### Mennonite Mission Network

Matthew and Toni Krabill, serving with Mennonite Mission Network at the Paris Mennonite Center in France, help resource Anabaptist Christians to engage with issues of injustice and conflict. Pray that they would continue to draw on God's words to guide their ministry and that they will help others to be faithful to Jesus' way

## COMMUNITY & CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Camp Mennoscah

**Camp Mennoscah's Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat** on October 30-Nov. 1 has up to five spaces available. (Nov. 6-8 is waitlist only.) Participants will stay in the Retreat Center with their own bathroom and scrapbook/crafts tables will be set up in the dining hall to provide more space and better ventilation. Register at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org)! Call 620-297-3290 for more information.

**Camp Mennoscah's annual meeting is September 27 at 7pm.** An online link will be shared soon! Get ready to hear about Camp Mennoscah's year!

**Work and Play Day!** Camp Mennoscah invites volunteers to sign up for a day of service and fun on October 10. The day begins at 8:30am and ends approximately 2:30pm. Contact staff at 620-297-3290 or [office@campmennoscah.org](mailto:office@campmennoscah.org) for details. Please bring a mask!

**Escape to the prairie!** Pastors and ministry workers are welcome to come to Camp Mennoscah for a day or overnight retreat. No charge for the first day/night, but reservations are required. Spend time on the trails, have a campfire cookout, and enjoy the open spaces of the tallgrass prairie and the Ninnescah River! Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 to make a reservation.

## Western District Conference

**SAVE THE DATE—IBA BENEFIT DINNER:** The annual Instituto Bíblico Anabautista (IBA) benefit fundraiser will take place **Friday, October 16** at First Mennonite Church in Newton, Kansas. A burrito order to go will take place instead of the usual dinner. Burritos will be cooked by chef Carlos Lujano. **(You can order Pork, Chicken or Meatless burritos. Sold by ½ dozen-6 burrito and a dozen-12 burritos)** Pick up between 4:30-6:30 pm, instructions will be sent later. **Sale by donation.** If you are not able to order you are invited to give a donation. Your generous gift will help ensure the future of this vital ministry. IBA is a program of Mennonite Education Agency's Hispanic Ministries for Leadership Development and Pastoral Education. For any inquiries or to ORDER contact Violeta Ajquejay Suastegui at: [VioletaA@MennoniteEducation.org](mailto:VioletaA@MennoniteEducation.org) or call 316-281-4342. **DEADLINE to order:** Thursday Oct. 9.

## Mennonite Church USA

We have service opportunities available for your whole family, even during the pandemic! Visit [MennoniteMission.net/SOOP](https://MennoniteMission.net/SOOP) for details and to apply!

How has 2020 strengthened, challenged or reshaped your Anabaptist faith and the way you live your life? Share your stories, photos, videos and artwork at **Anabaptist History Today**, a collaborative, online, Anabaptist storytelling platform. <https://aht.libraryhost.com/s/archive/page/Welcome>

Joel Miller, pastor of Columbus Mennonite Church, a sanctuary church in Ohio, talks about putting a face on immigration and reminds us that we have choices to make that impact our own humanity. Read more in his blog, **"These are my people!"** <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/these-are-people/>

Writing as part of a **blog series on racial justice**, Goshen College sophomore Greta Lapp Kassen reminds us that, "Silence is violence, and as pacifists, it is our duty to promote peace." Read her blog, "Our faith must compel us to work for change": <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/our-faith-must-compel-us-for-change/>

**Salt & Light Bible study video series:** Jump start online or in-person Bible study conversations this fall with new, short introductory teaching videos that enrich MennoMedia's new Salt & Light Curriculum series. These teaching videos can be used either for teacher prep or to introduce each weekly session. [Check out the videos here.](#) (Salt & Light replaces the Adult Bible Study/Quarterly with sessions written by Anabaptists for Anabaptists!)

## Mennonite Central Committee WDC/SCC Women's Retreat 2020:

**Celebrate with us!** Mennonite Central Committee invites you join **Celebration 2020: MCC at 100**, a livestreamed event commemorating a century of MCC's ministry on Saturday, Oct. 17, starting at 6:50 p.m. (EDT). The event will feature photos, videos and storytelling that highlight MCC's work over the years. Former MCC leader and pastor Leonard Dow of Philadelphia will inspire participants to walk boldly into the next century of MCC's ministry while talented musicians will lead in prayer and thanksgiving. You can find more information about MCC's centennial and log in for the livestreamed event at [mcc.org/celebration-2020](https://mcc.org/celebration-2020).

**Register NOW for the MCC Flatlander Bicycle Ride!** Due to COVID-19, the ride is a "virtual" event this year and open to EVERYONE. Riders may register any time until September 29. [Register online at Bikereg.com](https://www.bikereg.com). Join us in raising money for MCC to fund the construction of new wells and repair existing water and sanitary systems at schools in Nicaragua. With these improvements, students will have safe water to drink and wash their hands. In this global pandemic, access to clean water is more essential than ever. Donations from non-riders are welcome! Checks to MCC Flatlander Bike Ride may be sent to MCC Central States, PO Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117.

## Bethel College

**Sat., Oct. 3 – Kauffman Museum First-Saturday bird walk, 7:30 a.m., beginning in the museum parking lot, Main & 27th Streets in North Newton.** Experienced birders will lead a walk of 1 to 1.5 miles (about an hour) in Chisholm Park and on Sand Creek Trail. Path is mostly wood-chip with some steep/sloping spots. Binoculars recommended.

**Fall Festival at Bethel College is not canceled but will look different this year.** While there won't be a "Fall Festival fair" on campus Oct. 3, there will be a homecoming football game, a photography exhibit by David Long, and a virtual performance of a play written and directed by Karen Robu, among other events. The Bethel College Women's Association is taking orders for baked goods at [www.bcwamarketonline.com/shop/preorderforfallfest/9](https://www.bcwamarketonline.com/shop/preorderforfallfest/9) (**ordering deadline: Sept. 30**). See [www.bethelks.edu/alumni/events/fall-festival](https://www.bethelks.edu/alumni/events/fall-festival) for a detailed schedule, and for links to all virtual events.

**Save the date:** KIPCOR will kick off its **2020-21 Peace Lecture series** with journalist and best-selling author Sarah Smarsh, **Thursday, Nov. 5, 7 p.m.**, in an online format. This is a fundraiser for KIPCOR. More details to follow!

**Bethel College Women's Association has worked to raise money for Bethel for many years.** This August we are opening our first online store, [www.bca.marketonline.com](http://www.bca.marketonline.com). We invite you to help us support Bethel by checking this online market for crafts, jewelry, Bethel-themed items and much more. Our inventory will change over time so please check in to find that special gift or item for your home. If circumstances allow, on September 1 we will begin accepting orders for baked goods to be picked up on Fall Fest weekend, October 1-3. Please check the website for updated information.

### **Outreach Meal Packaging Event**

**Can you help?** On Saturday, October 17, 2020 an [Outreach Meal Packaging Event](#) will happen and we need 150 volunteers to make this a success. Our goal is to package 50,000 meals between 9am - 2pm (in two shifts). This is part of a nationwide 1,000,000 meal challenge in honor of the 19th anniversary of 9/11. All of the meals will be donated to domestic food banks, with 5,000 meals donated within Reno County. The event will be at the [Sand Hills Event Center](#) in Hutchinson. We will practice social distancing considerations including provided masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer. The event is co-sponsored by Buhler Mennonite Church and IdeaTek. Sign up and also pass the invitation on to other people you know. For more information and to sign-up use this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0545AEAD2EA1F58-100000> or call 620.899.2733.

### **Quilter's Corner Fall Sale**

**Friday October 2, 9 am – 5 pm**

**Saturday October 3, 9 am – 3 pm**

MCC Materials Resource Center, 121 East 30<sup>th</sup>, North Newton, KS

Quilter's Corner items that would have been sold at the annual KMRS in April will be available for purchase. Come support the relief work of MCC and start or replenish a quilting stash. Health protocols for Harvey County will be observed during the sale. Questions?? Contact Rose Wiebe Haury at 316-288-0079 or [haury@juno.com](mailto:haury@juno.com).

### **Everence Fall Webinar Wednesdays**

**Everence** is preparing six webinars that are free to those who will register for the event. Below is an Everence flyer that describes the subjects that will be covered. Subjects range from Long Term Care Insurance, Living Simply, Understanding Medicare, Protecting Your Finances From Scammers, How the Bible Speaks About Responsible Investing. These Webinars will be on Wednesdays, beginning Sept 9 and be offered early afternoon and evenings. Because speakers are not traveling and people are not gathering for meetings, these subjects will be offered by webinar. At the bottom of the flyer is the address to receive more information and register. Take advantage of these sessions to expand your knowledge.

[full-page flyer](#)