Notes of Appreciation

Thank You! The Youth Group wishes to thank all of you who came to our Russian Pancake Fundraiser (especially since it was a first attempt for many of us at making these). Thank you also for your very generous donations! We received $1,385.00, over half of the amount that we needed to reach our goal. This more than covers the cost of one person to attend Convention this summer. Thanks be to God for the gift of generosity!

Congregational Announcements

Youth Convention Meeting: This coming Wednesday (May 31) all youth planning to come to convention and their parents are invited to a Convention Information meeting at the church building at 6:00pm (pizza supper provided). Please plan to bring your questions regarding Convention and your insurance information for the medical release form. See you there!

Youth Fundraiser: Wall to Orlando: The Youth Group "Wall to Orlando" fundraiser has been moved to the wall beside the church office. If all of these envelopes were filled, we would have enough funds to reach our goal. Thank you for prayerfully considering to give above and beyond that which you have already given on behalf of our congregation's youth.

Church Leadership Retreat will take place on Sunday, June 4 from 4:30-8:30pm. Our focus will be reflecting on new ways to work together and empower new leaders to more fully embody our collective mission. Supper will be a hotdog roast in the park. Hotdogs, buns, condiments and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share as well as your own table service. All are welcome.

Summer Faith Formation begins Sunday June 18:

Children, we have exciting things planned for you that you don't want to miss! Carol Duerksen will be telling the Bible stories in creative ways. I've heard something about a talking donkey! Really? Krista Graber and Pam Abrahams are heading up activities, arts and crafts that reinforce these stories of faith in our daily lives. We hope to see you there!

Adults: "Jesus is the center of our faith; Community is the center of our lives; Reconciliation is the center of our work." What does it mean to live out these "Anabaptist Essentials" in our daily lives? This will be the topic of our conversation in the elective class offered this summer. Some books have already been ordered as we anticipate your attendance. Please sign up on the bulletin board by June 4, to reserve your book! The books are paid for by the Christian Education Commission. Will you join us this summer?

Finger Food Fellowship: Once a month the Tabor community (children and adults) will join for finger foods and fellowship during the Faith Formation hour. The first date is Sunday, June 4, followed by July 9 and August 6. Bring finger foods (fruit, veggies, crackers, trail mix, etc.) to share. Everyone is invited to gather for food, fun and fellowship.

Lost & Found items have been placed on a table in the basement. Please claim your items by June 4. Unclaimed items will be donated EtCetera.

VBS Snacks: The sign-up sheet for snack items for VBS is posted on the bulletin board. Please sign-up for what you would like to bring. Pay attention to which day the items are needed for and when they need to be at church. Thank-you!

The youth in our congregation have certainly gotten much good use out of the couches in our youth room and it is fun to think about who all has used these couches over the years! However, because they have been so well-used, it may be time to consider finding new couches so that new generations can enjoy them for a long time to come. If any of you have gently used couches that you're hoping to get rid of, or if you'd like an excuse to buy new furniture for your house, please consider donating your gently used couches to the TMYF. If interested, please talk to Pastor Katherine. Thanks for prayerfully considering this!

Mennonite Youth Census: Mennonite Education Agency is asking for record updates for children/students in the Mennonite Church. The purpose of the Mennonite Education Agency Youth Census is to give Mennonite Church USA students of all ages access to the programs and activities of the church. On behalf of the institutions and agencies of Mennonite Church USA, MEA gathers demographic information about students — name, contact information (such as address and phone number), birth date, gender, race and school information. This information is then made available to Mennonite-related groups upon request. The information is not available to groups outside Mennonite Church USA. The data is not used for fund-raising purposes and may not be posted on the internet. If you do not want information for your child/children given to MEA, please contact Kim Funk before May 31 to let her know.

Save the Date! The annual Women’s/Girls Retreat at Camp Mennoscah will be held September 8-10. The theme this year is "Together: Rooted and Reaching" led by Barb Krebbiel Gehring. We will also be celebrating 100 years of Mennonite Women. Watch for more details and registration in July.

Community Announcements

The Bethesda Home annual meeting will be Wednesday, May 31 at 7:30 p.m. in the Bethesda chapel. All are welcome. Business meeting will be followed with a pie social.

Conference Announcements

Prayer Requests:
★ Western District Conference: Pray for the WDC Ministerial Leadership Commission meeting this week, as they provide support and accountability to leaders in our congregations.
★ Mennonite Mission Network: MMN requests prayer for Margrit Kipfer Barrón as she compiles a book-study of Luke's Gospel to introduce non-Christian readers to Jesus. She wants this current project to be available to people living in remote areas of Bolivia where her pastor-husband, Freddy, helps to organize book fairs.
★ Mennonite Education Agency: Pray for Hesston College Interim President Ben Sprunger as he completes his last day of service on May 31. Thank God for his dedicated leadership of the college in a year of transition and pray for incoming President Joe Manickam as he prepares to take office in July.

★ Mennonite Church USA: Please be in prayer for the MHS Board meetings taking place this week.

The WDC Annual Assembly will be August 4-6 in Arlington, TX. A bus may be chartered from the Newton, KS area, the cost of which would be dependent upon the number of passengers. Please let us know BY MAY 30 if you have interest in traveling to Assembly by bus. A bus will only be chartered if enough interest is expressed, so it is important that you let us know! Thanks!

Camp Mennonosc:
— Camp Mennonosc started a Go Fund Me, gf.me/u/hmes8, campaign to help fund the new playground structure. Gifts of any size are welcome.
— Family Weekend - July 29-30
— Young Adult Weekend - August 4-6.

Information for Camp Mennonosc or to register:
Email: office@campmennonosc.org.
Contact: olivia.bartel@campmennonosc.org.

Mennonite Church USA Convention 2017: Come to Orlando July 4-8 to celebrate “Love is a Verb” with fellowship, worship and activities with Mennonites from around the country. Learn more at convention.mennoniteusa.org/registration/.

A Mini Comforter Blitz will be held on June 2 and 3 at MCC Central State Material Resource Center at 121 East 30th Street in North Newton. Pleated comforter tops will be tied and bound, and then distributed by MCC to those displaced by or seeking refuge from political unrest or natural disasters. The blitz will be open on Friday, June 2, from 1 - 8 pm, and on Saturday, June 3, from 8 am - noon. Bring a snack to share with others, and bring a sack lunch if you are staying over a mealtime. Drinks will be furnished. Need childcare? Please RSVP to Kara Klingenberg at 620-983-9003. Every age is welcome, from youths to senior citizens. See bulletin board for more information

The MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton is running particularly low on the following items: bottles of shampoo (13-24 oz.), bars of infant friendly/mild soap, infant sleepers/onesies (sizes 3-9 months), men’s crew socks (white). Without these items, various kits cannot be completed so we need your help! Kit items can be dropped off at 121 E. 30th in North Newton or purchased online (Amazon Smile or other online retailers) and shipped directly to MCC. Questions? Please contact Kate Mast 316.283.2720, katemast@mcc.org.

MCC Central States is hiring a Donor Relations Associate. The Donor Relations Associate is responsible for assisting in implementation of the donor relations strategy for MCC Central States by stewarding major donors involving face-to-face contact in order to meet the budgeted income goals and generate the necessary resources to accomplish the mission of MCC. This position is open within the 16-state MCC CS region. To see a full job description and to apply, please visit https://mcc.org/get-involved/serve/openings.

Community Conversation on Immigration hosted by Shalom Mennonite Church (800 E First, Newton, KS) on Saturday, June 3 at 10-11:30 am. It will be a moderated panel discussion with a question and answer time to follow. The discussion will focus on the panelists’ general perspectives on issues that affect refugees and immigrants in Kansas and Harvey County. The confirmed panel participants are Bob Myers (Newton City Manager) and Tim Hodge (State Representative). If you have questions about the event, contact Shalom at office@shalomnewton.org

Seminars simplify Medicare and Social Security: Everence Financial will provide information about Medicare and retirement income at three upcoming seminars. The Medicare seminars will be held on April 17 and May 1 and will include what Medicare covers, the differences between plans that supplement Medicare, and enrollment deadlines. The retirement income seminar, held on June 5, will help you determine if you have enough money to retire, what to do if the market doesn’t cooperate and how to know if your savings will last. Seminars are held at 7 p.m. at the Everence office in Hesston. To reserve your spot, contact Michelle Ramer at (620) 327-4043 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

History Channel Program Includes Mennonite Immigration: On Monday and Tuesday, May 29 and 30, at 8:00 pm, the History Channel will broadcast a two-part special on "America: The Promised Land," and on Tuesday a segment of the program will focus on Bernhard Warkentin, Turkey Red Wheat, and the 1870s Mennonite immigration to Kansas. The Warkentin story is featured as one important example of why different immigrants came to the United States and their impact. Link to further information regarding the television show: http://www.history.com/shows/americapromised-land

A wooden trunk that was brought to Kansas with an Immigrant family's belongings and a sack of Turkey Hard Red Winter Wheat (to be planted here), was filmed in the 1870s Mennonite immigration to Kansas. The Warkentin story is featured as one important example of why different immigrants came to the United States and their impact. Link to further information regarding the television show: http://www.history.com/shows/americapromised-land

Bethel College:
— Sun., May 28. 3pm – Impromptu special Sunday-Afternoon-at-the-Museum event. David Moon, professor of history, University of York (United Kingdom), will present “The American Steppe: Influences from Russia and Ukraine on the Great Plains, 1870s-1930s,” as a ‘prequel’ to “America: Promised Land” (see above annc.)
— Sat., June 3—Walk Sand Creek Trail Day, 6am-8pm.
— Sat., June 3—Kauffman Museum First-Saturday Bird Walk, 6:30am. Meet in the museum parking lot.

Hesston College alumni and friends are invited to Explore KS! June 24 and 25. The overnight tour includes Saturday at the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art and Kansas City Royals game. Sunday worship service will be at Kansas City’s Frank Lloyd Wright designed Community Christian Church with professional baritone Anthony Brown performing, and the Kansas Mennonite Men’s Chorus concert at Grace Episcopal Cathedral in Topeka. Details available at hesston.edu/explore-kansas or call 620-327-8147 to register by June 12.