



First Mennonite Church of Halstead

June 28, 2026

As we gather together as a body of believers, may our hearts and minds be focused on you O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer.

Gathering Music – Barb Yoder

Blessed Assurance – arr. by Knapp

Welcome and Announcements - David Haspels

Birthday Blessing and Offering

Minute for Mission – Kids Meet Christ - Grace Parker Sutter

Centering Music – Casey Jacob, Ruth Mueller, Barb Yoder

I Believe - Gayle et al.

Call to Worship

Leader: In every season of trouble and uncertainty, we do not stand alone.

People: We gather as a community of faith, lifting one another up in prayer.

Leader: Let us lay down our fears and approach the throne of grace with boldness.

People: For the Lord is our refuge and our strength in times of distress.

Leader: Let us draw near to the King of Kings, who hears our cries and knows our needs.

People: We come to worship the Lord our God, together.

***Worship Through Singing – Great Is Thy Faithfulness – VT #419**

1 Great is thy faith - ful-ness, O God my Fa - ther.*
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring-time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

(G) (D) (E7) (A)
 A \flat E \flat F7 B \flat

There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

(A7) (D) (G)
 B \flat 7 E \flat A \flat

Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row;

(G \sharp dim7) (D/A) (A7) (D)
 A dim7 E \flat /B \flat B \flat 7 E \flat

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful-ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness!

(A7) (D) (Dm) (A/E) (E7) (A)
 Bb7 Eb Ebm Bb/F F7 Bb

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see.

(A7) (D) (G)
 Bb7 Eb Ab

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.

(G#dim7) (D/A) (A7) (D)
 Adim7 Eb/Bb Bb7 Eb

Great is thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

Offering & Offertory – MC USA

A Perfect Heart - arr. Fettke

Casey Jacob, Ruth Mueller, Barb Yoder

Scripture Reading – Esther 4:1-17 (p. 780)

Children's Time – Melanie Haspels

A nursery is available in the basement for children aged 4 and younger following Children's Time.

Worship Through Singing – *For the Cause* – Lyrics Projected

Worship Through Singing – *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* – VT

#831

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
2 We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's
3 When we a - sun - der part, it gives us
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

(D) (A) (A7) (D) (A) (A7)
F C C7 F C C7

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of kin - dred
bur - dens bear, and of - ten for each oth - er
in - ward pain, But we shall still be joined in
shall be free, and per - fect love and friend - ship

(D) (G/D) (D) (G) (D/A) (A7) (D)
F B \flat /F F B \flat F/C C7 F

minds is like to that a - bove.
flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Congregational Prayer – Pastor Steve

Message – Pastor Steve

Blessed to Be Spent

Response Song – *Spirit of the Living God* – Lyrics Projected

Closing Prayer

***Sending Song** - *We Are the Body of Christ* – Lyrics Projected

***Benediction**

***Postlude** – Cindy Siemens

*Please stand if you are able

CHURCH CALENDAR

June 28 5:00 p.m. Golf Outing at Wedgewood Golf Course

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Grace Parker Sutter who shared about Kids Meet Christ with the combined adult Sunday School and will share briefly during the service. Thank you for joining us today!

I will be putting the bulletin together on Wednesday, July 1.

Please send any items for the July 5 bulletin to me by noon that day. Thanks!

We would like to thank everyone for your prayers and visits during Alan's recovery. Alan and Marilyn

The July/August issue of *The Upper Room* is available on the table at the back of the sanctuary and in the literature rack outside Stauffer Hall.

First Mennonite's annual golf outing TONIGHT! The cookout starts at 5 p.m. with tee-off at 6 p.m. Meat and drinks will be provided, remember to bring a side dish to accompany the meal. If you signed up to golf, we'll see you there!

The Prayer Team invites anyone who would like to be involved in praying for the needs of our church, community and world, to let Ruth Mueller or Pastor Steve know. The group meets monthly on a weekday morning and receives weekly emails of prayer needs and updates.

Adults: Join us for Sunday School this summer! A combined adult class will meet in Stauffer Hall June 7 through August 30. Pathfinders will also meet in their basement classroom. The schedule for the combined adult class is below:

- June 28: Grace Parker Sutter with *Kids Meet Christ*
- July 5: "The Power of God's Names" video series by Tony Evans
- July 12: Guest speaker Lyle Miller from Everence
- July 19: FMC supported missionaries – the Givens family *or possible fellowship Sunday if they are unavailable.*
- July 26: "The Power of God's Names" video series by Tony Evans
- Aug. 2: FMC supported missionaries – the Woodward-Breckbill family
- Aug. 9: Old Settlers Sunday – NO ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
- Aug. 16: "The Power of God's Names" video series by Tony Evans
- Aug. 23: "The Power of God's Names" video series by Tony Evans
- Aug. 30: Fellowship Sunday with refreshments and class planning.

The summer Sunday School mission project is Zone 33 Student Ministries. Several of our youth attend regularly on Wednesday nights and it's a great outreach program in our community!

The link to register for the Western District Conference annual conference was sent with the bulletin packet. It will be held August 7-9, 2026, at Iglesia Luz del Evangelio in Dallas, Texas. If you are planning to attend, either in-person or virtually, and would

be willing to be a delegate to represent FMC, please let Melanie know by July 20. An abundance of information about the conference was emailed with the bulletin packet. If you would like to have it printed out to read instead, please let Melanie know. *There is no set registration fee this year. Registration costs will be covered through donations and mutual aid.*

MCC Grandparent Days, July 13 & 14, 9:30-11:30 a.m. each day. Mark your calendars and gather your grandchild(ren) to pack MCC school kits at the Material Resources Center in North Newton. You'll be helping MCC reach our 2026 School Kit Challenge goal of 30,000 school kits this summer! There is more information at mcc.org/grandparent-days or you can contact brociamueller@mcc.org or call her at 316.836.5045.

MCC's School Kit Challenge is back! Join the 2026 School Kit Challenge and help MCC provide 30,000 school kits for 30,000 kids this summer. School kits provide access and essential supplies to children and families navigating war, displacement or financial struggles. MCC is collecting school kits from June through August. Look for School Kit Challenge signs when you drop kits off at MCC so staff can be sure to get your kits counted! To learn more about this challenge and to download a free activity guide, visit mcc.org/school-kit-challenge. Questions? Please contact brociamueller@mcc.org or 316.836.5045. Kits can be dropped off at MCC Central States in North Newton.

Colorado peaches are coming! Palisade peaches from western Colorado will be available for pre-order starting June 15. Two sizes are available: 9 lb. for \$31 and 18 lb. for \$43. An additional \$1 per box has been added as fuel expenses will be higher this summer. All orders must be received and paid in full by July 15. No orders will be accepted after this date. Orders can be placed by emailing the MCC Central States Office at patsydirksen@mcc.org or calling 316-283-2720. Cash and checks are accepted. Checks should be made payable to Beth-El Mennonite Church with "peaches" in the memo line. Please send payments to MCC, PO Box 235, North Newton KS 67117 or drop off at the MCC office located at 121 East 30th, North Newton.

Estimated pick-up date is Monday, August 10 at the MCC warehouse. This date will be confirmed later in July. Beth-El Mennonite Church in Colorado Springs sells the peaches as a fundraiser for bierocks ingredients that are sold at the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale, October 17 in Castle Rock, CO. Thank you for supporting MCC!

Buhler Mennonite Church & Hoffnungsau Mennonite Church invite local farmers and ag professionals to a Gathering for Farmers, Ranchers and the Ag Community on Friday, July 31st at Hilton Garden Inn, Hutchinson, KS. 8:30am is coffee and donuts and 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. is the Program and Lunch. Soil & Soul brings together the people who support agriculture every day to strengthen relationships, share resources, and build support systems that help producers thrive. As the first in a two-part series, this gathering is designed for agriculture's "front-line" professionals – bankers, lenders, implement dealers, agronomists, veterinarians, insurance and Co-op employees, healthcare providers, congregation members, and others who work closely with producers. Through shared conversation, learning, connection, and a meal, we hope to build understanding around stress and well-being while strengthening a more supportive ag community. A larger, producer-focused event will follow on November 14, 2026. We hope you join us in July! A link to register was emailed with the bulletin packet. For more information contact bmcpastor@gmail.com or 620-899-8918

Online registration is open for the annual Mennonite Women in Mission Women's & Girls (ages 8 - high school) Retreat at Camp Mennoscah on September 12-13. Forms are available on the website for printing for mail in registration, although online is preferred and easy. Detailed schedule information and registration is at www.mennonitewomeninmission.org. Retreat starts at 10 a.m. Saturday with SoulCollage™ with Elizabeth Eells, comforter tying for MCC, and the Faith & Life bookstore open. The retreat theme is "My Time is in Your Hands" with session speakers Melissa Atchison & Audrey Ratzlaff. Girl's leaders are Schyler Entz and Emily Brandt with an additional girls tie dye bandana session with

Marla Sowatzky Towe. Come join us for fun, fellowship, and inspiration! Questions? Email mennonitewomeninmission@gmail.com.

Bethel College Update: In honor of the U.S. semiquincentennial (250 years), the Mennonite Library and Archives at Bethel College has a small exhibit of books owned by the MLA that were published in 1776. The 9 titles are in German, Dutch and French. You can view the exhibit in the MLA Mon.-Thurs., June 29-July 2 (Mon. 1:30-4:30 p.m., Tues.-Weds.-Thurs. 9:30-noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m.). The MLA is closed starting July 3 and reopens in August, when the display is available for viewing again.

Bethel College is hosting Crossmen Drum & Bugle Corps, a top-tier competitive drum corps, on campus through July 7. They will give a free performance July 4 at 8 p.m. in Thresher Stadium – everyone is welcome! **Fri., July 17** – The Bethel College alumni office invites alumni and friends to a cookout (hamburgers, hot dogs, sides, fixings, beverages and homemade ice cream; vegetarian and gluten-free options available), 6-8 p.m., around the Friesen fountain on the campus Green. There will also be live music by Jesse Graber, Ben Regier and Erin Mae. This free event is a welcome to campus for Interim President Wynn Goering, with remarks from him and others at 7 p.m. There will be a few tables and chairs on-site, but you're welcome to bring your own lawn chairs and blankets, along with yard games to share (a few will be available).

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Western District Conference: Pray for church planters and their families, that they may experience strength, encouragement, and deep trust in God's provision. -WDC Church Planting Commission.
- Mennonite Mission Network: Ben and Laurel Woodward-Breckbill are serving as the directors of the Paris (France) Mennonite Center. They and their two children will soon be traveling back to the United States for their two-month North American Ministry. Pray for them as they spend July visiting churches and supporters on a cross-country road trip, and August in Kansas.

SUNDAY INFORMATION

NURSERY TODAY	Lauren Mueller, Ruth Mueller, Emmit Jacob
PIANIST/ORGANIST	Cindy Siemens
OFFERING LAST SUNDAY	
Church Budget	\$3,654.25
MCUSA	65.00
Peace Connections	926.74
Western District Conference	\$65.00
ATTENDANCE ON LAST SUNDAY	81
OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY	Church Budget
NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY	Betsy Davis, Kaitlen Ortman, Eli Wilcox