

Hope Mennonite Church
November 12, 2023
9:30 am Worship

Gathering to Worship

*As we gather for worship, please silence all electronic devices.
Hearing assistance devices are available from the ushers.*

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Prayer

*Call to Worship

In a world of conflict, in a polarized nation,
in a city plagued by violence, we cry

God, God, why have you forsaken us? Where have you gone? Do you hear us?

In our restless seeking, in our quest for answers,
in our spiritual exercises, we wonder

Why don't you answer day or night?

Quiet us. Center us. Open us to your emptiness,
your holy absence, and allow it to hold us.

Yes, our ancestors trusted you.

**May we too come to a place of trust,
our emptiness and absence absorbed in yours.**

*Songs of Gathering

"Sing to the God of Harvest"

#122

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

#540

Hearing God's Word

Scripture reading

I Kings 18:17-39

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

#536

Message

"Hobbling Between Opinions"

Randy Quinn

Responding to God's Word

*"Holy Presence, Holy Teacher"

#531

The Giving of our Tithes and Offerings
Offertory
Prayer of Thanksgiving

Greeting our Guests (Please pass the attendance pads)

Seeing and Seeking God
Work of the Church
Sharing our Praises and Concerns

Prayers of God's People

Sending

*"Use Us, God"

#811

*Benediction

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*Please stand if you are able

A warm welcome to all who have chosen to worship with us today in person or on Zoom. The recording on YouTube is available starting on Monday.

Worship Participants

Worship leader: Lori Miller
Pianist: Vicki Howard
Song leader: Galen Fast
Scripture Reader: Joanna Pinkerton
Worship tech: Mike Voth
Zoom host: Brenda Glanzer Lilliston

Upcoming Worship Services

November 19 Preaching text: Isaiah 5:1-7, 11:1-10
November 26 Adam Voth Unruh, guest speaker
December 3 1st Sunday of Advent



Stay in Touch with Hope

Hope Mennonite Church
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Wichita, KS 67212

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Interim Pastor

Randy Quinn 779-4329 pastor@hopemennonite.org

Secretaries

Cynthia Loganbill 721-8807 secretary@hopemennonite.org
Kim Voth 721-1250 secretary@hopemennonite.org

Church Office Hours

Randy Tuesday-Wednesday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Monday, Thursday – work from home
Cynthia Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-1:30 pm
Kim Friday 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Staff meeting Tuesday 9:30 am

Hope on Facebook: Follow the link at hopemennonite.org and “like” Hope Mennonite Church to see pictures & updates on church life.

First Fruits Giving

Giving the first and best of what we are given
as a worship response to God.

November 5

Attendance 92 (Hope-85; Zoom-7)
Offering last Sunday \$8,741 Year to date - \$191,037
Spending plan year to date - \$225,000

Hope offers an electronic option of giving through **Tithely**.
Contact the church office for instructions.

Our Purpose: *As an Anabaptist community of faith empowered by the Holy Spirit, Hope Mennonite Church is calling and making disciples who bring Christ's love and peace to our world*

Hope Mennonite Church Statement of Welcome and Inclusion

We believe all people are created in God's image and we covenant to accept, respect, and love one another as we seek to follow Jesus. We gather around God's table as an open and affirming congregation, embracing all people to full participation in the life and ministry of our church regardless of age, race, marital status, sexual orientation, economic status, gender identity, citizenship, ability, ethnicity, or any other factor subject to discrimination or exclusion in our world. We recognize and give thanks for the diverse opinions among us and are united as we strive to model a community of faith offering justice, peace, love, and compassion in the name of Christ.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK (November 12-18)

Tuesday -10:00 am Women's Bible study – hospitality
-6:30 pm Hopeful Blues rehearsal-sanctuary
Wednesday -7:00 pm Choir
Thursday -7:00 pm Women's Bible study – immigration



*Preschool: Room 8/9 downstairs

*Elementary: Room 2 downstairs

*Middle School: Room 7 downstairs

*Adults: Inside the Disciples Studio – sharing by Randy Quinn & Lowell Birkey. Next Sunday – Travis & Charity Cox

Coffee preparation next Sunday – Travis & Charity Cox



NURSERY (birth through age 4)

Today: Kevin & Taylor Sechrist

Next Sunday: Jordon & Emily Regehr

November 26: Val & Mike Mayta

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK (November 19-25)

Tuesday -10:00 am Women's Bible study – hospitality
Thur/Friday -Office closed

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Guests and visitors last Sunday: Brad Anderson, Eric & Celeste Bruce

The November 3 issue of *Anabaptist World* is available on the front table. There are several articles by staff writers who traveled to lesser-known parts of the Anabaptist world. Pick up your copy today and/or also a copy of the past issue.

The December-February issue of the *Rejoice* devotional is available on the front table. Pick up a copy today – they go fast.

As per our Christmas tradition: You are invited to purchase a poinsettia that will adorn our sanctuary from December 10-through Christmas Eve, at which time you can take it home. The poinsettia can be purchased in memory/honor of, or to celebrate a person/ event. Deadline for purchasing is December 4. Contact the church office with your request. Cost is \$10 per poinsettia.

Please look ahead and mark your calendars for Hope's next Family Promise hosting week. We will be hosting families from **December 31 through January 7.**

Make plans to start your 2024 ministry inspired and renewed! Cultivating unity within faith communities can be difficult when cultural pressures are divisive. As the next iteration of the former School for Leadership Training, Shalom Academy 2024 offers a place to learn and reflect on the practices that move congregations past divisiveness and toward peace. Keynote speakers and workshops give fresh perspectives on justice-inspired shalom, and new-this-year excursions provide for relaxation and recreation with friends both old and new. For more information or to register for Shalom Academy 2024 visit <https://emu.edu/seminary/slt/>.

M&M Project Update: We did it, friends! Working together, we have raised more than \$100,000 for the Mission and Maintenance Project at Camp Mennoscah! Thank you all who have supported this effort with your prayers and your gifts! We've been able to match the generous gift that started this challenge back in the Spring!

So, what's next? That's a good question! One thing is for sure: We don't want to stop the ball now that it is rolling! Camp is still in need of money for maintenance. We need to make sure we have the facilities working well so we can continue to be a place where people of all ages come to renew themselves, their relationships, and their connection with God. We still need maintenance to do the mission.

Please consider giving to Camp Mennoscah and/or the M&M Project on **Giving Tuesday** - this year on **November 28** - or as part of your end-of-the-year giving. It's not that we aren't thankful for all you've done - but there is a lot to be done at Camp, and we already know that God has touched your heart and called you to be part of Camp's mission. Let's not just finish the M&M Project strong - let's finish the year strong! And who knows? Maybe - just maybe - someone may step up to match what we've contributed over and above our goal. Maybe that someone is someone you know. Maybe that someone is you!

Thank you for being a part of Camp Mennoscah!
75 years - There is still so much ahead!

All bakers and craft makers are invited to make items for 5 Places of Christmas on Saturday, **December 2**, at Goerz House, Bethel College. Bethel College Women's Association will again be selling baked goods, candy, craft items and poinsettias. Your home-baked cookies, zwiebach, cinnamon rolls, peppernuts and poppyseed rolls are always great sellers. This year we are especially asking for homemade candies such as peanut clusters, peanut butter balls, peanut brittle or fudge. Please bring your items to Goerz House on Friday, December 1, from 1:00-4:00 pm or on Saturday from 9:00-10:00 am. Thank you for your support of Bethel College.

Prayers for the wider church

... Pray for Western District Conference congregations in pastoral transition, and for those who are considering a call to ministry, that they would be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit in times of change.

...The Alamosa Mennonite Voluntary Service unit welcomed two new volunteers this fall: Alena Miller and Cindi Boyer. Pray for them as they join Jake Myers, who has extended his service for a second year. Pray for them as they form their household and work in healthcare, with English-language learners and in community gardening.

...Praise God for the innovative peacebuilding ministries of Colombia Mennonite Church and other churches in Colombia. May God bless the seeds planted and bring a lasting peace to those who have known so much suffering.