

Hope Mennonite Church

June 29, 2025

9:30 am Worship

Gathering to Worship
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*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

If you are delighted to be here, and if you are tired or troubled,  
**you are welcome.**

If your faith is strong, and if your faith is battered or frail,  
**you are welcome.**

If you are eager to praise God, and if you need to be quiet,  
**you are welcome.**

***God welcomes us all to worship today  
and promises to meet us here.***

\*Songs of Gathering

"Morning Has Broken"

#495

"What Is This Place"

#22

Hearing God's Word
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Time with the Children

Sara Dick

Scripture Reading (NSVUE)

Matthew 11:1-19

"I Sought the Lord"

#161

Message

"Faith in this Generation?"

Kathy Neufeld Dunn

Responding to God's Word
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\*"Ask the Complicated Questions"

#440

The Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Greeting our Guests (Please pass the attendance pads)

Litany of Release and Blessing of Sara Dick insert

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

Prayers of God’s People

Sending

\*“Praise God” #70

\*Benediction

\* \* \* \* \*

\*Stand as you are able

A warm welcome to all who have chosen to worship with us this morning in person or on Zoom. Today we bid farewell to Pastor Sara Dick as she completes her interim time with us.

Worship Participants

Worship leader: Lori Miller  
Pianist: Ruthie Goering  
Song leader: Steve Pankratz  
Scripture reader: Barb Voth  
Worship tech: Grant Bellar  
Zoom host: Renetta Gooden

Upcoming Worship Services

July 6	Guest speaker: Trent Voth
July 13	Guest speaker: Peter Goerzen
July 20	Girl Named Tom (winners of <i>The Voice</i> 2021)
July 27	Hopeful Blues; Ruth Harder’s first Sunday
August 3	Ruth Harder’s installation

Hope Mennonite Church  
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[www.hopemennonite.org](http://www.hopemennonite.org)

#### Interim Pastor

Sara Dick (316) 821-0577 [pastor@hopemennonite.org](mailto:pastor@hopemennonite.org)

#### Secretaries

Cynthia Loganbill 721-8807 [secretary@hopemennonite.org](mailto:secretary@hopemennonite.org)

Kim Voth 721-1250 [secretary@hopemennonite.org](mailto:secretary@hopemennonite.org)

#### Church Office Hours

Cynthia Monday-Thursday 9-1:30 pm

Kim Friday 9-1 pm

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

#### First Fruits Giving

Giving the first and best of that we are given.

#### June 22

Attendance 96 (Hope 87, Zoom 9)

Offering last Sunday \$4,625

Year to date \$107,183

Spending Plan commitment year to date \$134,615

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 (June 29-July 5)

Friday -Office closed  
Saturday -Sandwich Saturday  
-10 am – 2 pm Reserved event



Mower this week – Eldon & Clinton Chlumsky

Coffee preparation next Sunday –



NURSERY (infant up to 5<sup>th</sup> birthday)

Today: Tiffany & Justin Regehr

Next Sunday: Tiffany & Justin Regehr

July 13: Jared & Natalie Regehr

## MEETINGS NEXT WEEK (July 6-12)

Monday -9 am 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee

Wednesday -8:30 am Coffee with Friends – see announcement

-6:30 pm Sanctuary reserved

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Guests & visitors last week: Richard Smith

Our guest speaker is Kathy Neufeld Dunn who is the Western District Conference Associate Conference Minister (Kansas-based) supporting pastors and congregations in Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. She coordinates, leads trainings and other educational events for pastors and congregations. This includes supporting the ministries of the WDC Israel-Palestine Task Force, the Farm Worker Health Task Force, and through the Resource Commission and a recent Lilly Grant, the Kids Meet Christ children in worship initiative. She and her husband, Michael, share their home in McPherson, KS with cats. She's better at training people than cats.

Coffee with Friends Are you discovering you now have more time for things you love? Perhaps your list now includes more time gathering with friends & friends you would like to get to know better. This invitation is for Hope women of all ages who enjoy informal conversation with no agenda, for an opportunity to connect, unwind, and share informal conversation. Feel free to invite neighbors, relatives, and other friends! Please join us for the next gathering Wednesday, **July 9**, 8:30 a.m. Larcher's. 3555 East Douglas.

Sanctuary Remodel Update: We have received quotes for the remodel construction of the sanctuary for video monitors. The cost is approximately \$25,000. On July 13<sup>th</sup> Vision Council will host a discussion on whether or not we want to move forward with the construction or consider an alternate installation plan. If you would like a refresh on the options for installation, please review the video from our previous discernment session on the video monitors [https://youtu.be/np4\\_RnyGdlk](https://youtu.be/np4_RnyGdlk) . As a refresher, the congregation has previously voted in favor of building in the monitors rather than mounting them on the existing front walls. However, the caveat included was that preference would be dependent on the cost. Please give this spending prayerful consideration and plan to join us for the discussion and decision on July 13<sup>th</sup> following worship.

**Call for Nominations to Vision Council Positions** We are inviting the congregation to make nominations of members to serve on upcoming open Vision Council positions. While our regular discernment process will occur in the fall, the Vision Council positions often need advance timing to help facilitate smooth transitions. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to serve our church community and help guide our mission and activities. **Positions Available:** Both the Treasurer and Secretary positions on Vision Council will be open for the two-year term beginning January 2026. We hope to identify a candidate to participate in the fall activities in preparation for the start of the term. This is most helpful and critical for the Treasurer position as we perform year end financials and new year budget proposals.

**How to Nominate:** Please submit your nominations o Natalie Hand at [gnjrhand@gmail.com](mailto:gnjrhand@gmail.com) or 316-648-2937. Include the nominee's name, the position for which they are being nominated. The nominations will be reviewed by the Vision Council Committee, and candidates will be contacted for further discussion. Final selections will be voted on at the annual meeting in January 2025.

I'm lost, please find me! Please check out the Lost & Found table and retrieve what belongs to you. In a couple of weeks, whatever is left, will be free for the taking. Stay tuned for "take me Sunday!"

The annual Western District Conference Assembly will be held August 8-9 at Hesston Mennonite Church, Hesston, KS. *Anabaptism@500: Faithfulness Then and Now* is this year's theme. The theme scriptures are Hebrews 12.1-2 and 1 Corinthians 3.11. Who do you think of with gratitude when you imagine the "great cloud of witnesses Come hear stories of those who have gone before and those who faithfully continue to "run the race." We will have opportunities for all ages including a time of singing and fellowship Friday evening sponsored by Camp Mennoscah, Saturday evening fellowship time of music, ice cream, and more, an intergenerational faith formation track for all ages, wonderful worship, workshops on many current topics, & delegate sessions. Register at <https://mennowdc.org/2025-annual-assembly>

Hope is entitled to send 9 delegates (members or regular attendees) to the WDC annual assembly and all costs are covered. The delegate sessions are Saturday, August 9 from 8-10 am and 1-2pm and you can participate in person or via Zoom. If you are interested or have questions, please contact the church office. The deadline to submit our delegate list is July 27.

Kidron Bethel Village will host its annual Fourth of July Fireworks Extravaganza on Friday, **July 4**, at 3001 Ivy Dr., North Newton. The evening includes fun for the whole family with games, giveaways, food and fireworks. Arrival may begin at 8 p.m. Hot dogs, chips, drinks and ice cream bars will be available for purchase, with proceeds benefitting the Health Care Benevolent Fund. Fireworks will begin at sundown, approximately 9:45 p.m.

#### Prayers for the wider church

... Give thanks for Western District Conference congregations, members and friends whose generous financial support makes it possible to carry out WDC's mission.

... Peace Academic Center, formerly the Hopi Mission School, in Kykotsmovi, Arizona, closed, and the property is being transferred to the Hopi Nation. Pray that the seeds planted in 1893, when General Conference Mennonite mission workers began serving there, will continue to grow.

... SEMILLA, the Latin American Anabaptist Seminary in Guatemala, provides theological education for 13 Anabaptist Mennonite conferences in Central America and in Mexico.

## **Litany of Release and Blessing:**

**Congregational Representative:** As siblings in this faith community, today we give thanks for your interim ministry among us, Sara. We say farewell to you, and we ask God to bless the journey ahead – yours and this congregation's next chapter.

**Congregation:** All praise be to our God. In God there is one Body, one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us all.

**Sara:** We have shared much significant ministry together in the time I have been your Interim Pastor.

**Congregational Representative:** Because of this, the goodbyes are hard. Be assured we are grateful for all that we've accomplished together. We thank God for you and your vital Interim Ministry among us.

**Sara:** It had been some time since I had been engaged in congregational ministry. You welcomed and respected me as your interim pastor. I leave with cherished memories, as well as gratitude.

**Congregational Representative:** God has blessed us through your ministry. We now bless you as you begin a new chapter in your life and ministry journey.

**Associate Conference Minister:** With these things in mind, do you now release Sara as your Interim Pastor?

**Congregation:** With the help of God, we do. We give thanks for Sara's faithful leadership and now acknowledge this transition in the life of our congregation. We will pray for God's continued guidance in your life.

**Associate Conference Minister:** Sara, do you release the people of Hope Mennonite Church from their loyalty to you as their Interim Pastor? Do you release the members from turning to you and depending on you to provide the pastoral ministries they seek?

**Sara:** With the help of God, I do. When we meet in the future, we will be siblings, not Interim Pastor and church members. I will hold the congregation and its ministries in my prayers.

**Associate Conference Minister:** Sara may God bless and guide you on the next steps of your journey. May you ultimately form meaningful relationships in a new and beloved faith community. May God bless you and guide you in your next chapter of ministry. May God bless and guide this congregation as Hope continues kingdom work along with their next pastor. May God bless and guide each of us in the new relationship that we now will share. Amen.