



Hutterthal Mennonite Church

Christ Centered –

Living, Relating, Serving

Sunday, November 24, 2024

9:45 a.m.

Prelude

Call to Worship & Prayer

*Welcoming One Another

*Gathering and Praising

At the Dawn of Your Creation VT #179

O Blessed Spring VT #522

Sharing Time and Prayer

Children's Time

Worship Music

"A Time for Everything" - Misha Goetz

Scripture Reading Eccles. 3:1-8 Pew Bible p. 351

Message Changing Seasons

Offering Prayer

*Responding and Sending

In the Bulb There Is a Flower VT #670

As You Go Out from Here VT #841

*Benediction

Postlude

*please stand if you are able

HMC Service may be viewed on our web-page:

www.HMCFreeman.org

TODAY Nov. 24, 2024 9:45 a.m.

Worship Leader: Barbie Hofer

Accompanist: Charlene Friesen

Song Leader: Amy Hofer Vetch

Children's Time: Les Rensink

Worship Music: Phil & Joline Thomas

Message: Stacey Waltner

Coffee Time: Jaden Thomas

Children's Sunday School after the worship service.

Adult SS following coffee time in the Education Wing.

NEXT SUNDAY, Dec. 1, 2024, 9:45 a.m. 1st Sun. of Advent

Worship Leader: Donovan Friesen

Accompanist: Paige Hofer

Song Leader: Aprille Birkey

Time for the Young & Young at Heart: Suzanne Koerner

Worship Music: Randall & Morgan Koehler

Scripture: Daniel 6:6-27; Luke 23:1-5

Message: "Between a Rock and a Hard Place" - Pastor Randall Koehler

Coffee Time: Todd & Suzanne Koerner

Children's Sunday School after the worship service.

Adult SS following coffee time in the Education Wing.

Calendar:

Dec. 4: HMC Annual Meeting at 7 PM

Dec. 18: Church Board Meeting at 7 PM

Dec. 22: Worship Service at 9:45 AM; then Children's Christmas Program followed by a fellowship meal

Dec. 25: Christmas Day Service at HMC at 10 AM

Dec. 29: Time of Remembrance during worship

On Sunday, December 1, the Intergenerational Adult Sunday School class here at HMC will begin studying the Salt & Light winter materials - **“We Follow Jesus: An Anabaptism at 500 study.”** If you are interested in joining this class for December, January, and February, make sure to pick up a study booklet in the south education room in the next few weeks. Matthew Tschetter and Pastor Randall will be splitting up the weeks required for teaching all of the lessons.

Thank you to all that helped out with the **Sunday School MCC goat project**. We received \$325, so we purchased 5 goats for people who need them. - Christian Education Committee

Rural Revival to meet on Monday, November 25 at 8:00 p.m. at the Freeman Public Library community room. All are welcome to attend.

The **December 2024 Mennonite Mission Network Prayer Vine** is now available for download. The PDF is posted in the prayer resources section of our website.

<https://www.mennonitemission.net/resources/prayer/>

The MDS **November edition of On the Level** is now available. In this edition, learn about Bridging Together, a new partnership with Lutheran Disaster Response, read how hope is being renewed in Santa Cruz plus get all the details for the upcoming 75th Anniversary Celebration.

<https://conta.cc/4fWz7HD>

Prayer Requests and Praises:

- **Birthdays:** Chad Hofer on Nov. 25; Jennifer Friesen on Nov. 27; Steve Friesen on Nov. 29.
- We give thanks for all the relationships in our congregations and in our conference that sustain us, guide us, and help us to see the Kingdom of God!
- On Thanksgiving Day, Joseph and Rachel Givens, who are serving with Mennonite Mission Network, will continue a tradition of gathering the guests of Maria Skobtsova House and the other houses of refuge around Calais, France, for a meal. Pray that on this day, God's love will be shown, so that people fleeing violence may find community and people who are hungry may eat their fill.
- God, we thank you for the blessing and joy of family and friends. Thank you for those who are gathered with us today and those who are far away. May we all see the many ways you provide for us, comfort us, and protect us.

HMC Congregational Ministry Project for November:

Cash for Mennonite Disaster Service
Please place donations in the CM church mailbox
or give to Joyce Hofer, the CM treasurer.

Pastor Randall's contact information:

Pastor Office Hours: Tues., Thurs., & Fri. 8:30 AM -12 PM

Phone - 309-208-6032

Email - pastorrandallhmc@gmail.com

Office Administrative Assistant: Aprille Birkey

Church Email: hutterthal@goldenwest.net

Church Website: www.hmcfreeman.org

Hard to believe, but 'tis already the season! Et Cetera Shoppe once again would welcome your **donations of traditional pfeffernusse (peppernut) cookies** made from the recipe of your choice. Every year, the sale of peppernuts at the shop greatly boosts our end-of-year giving to the work of Mennonite Central Committee. Making peppernuts can be a fun holiday activity to do with grandchildren, mentees, youth groups, extension clubs, and anyone else – so please consider making a batch and bringing them to the shop any time before Thanksgiving (and after, too)! You do not need to package them in any particular way – bringing them in Ziploc bags or ice cream pails is great.

Looking for a **unique Christmas gift idea**? Stop into Et Cetera Shoppe this holiday season to give someone you love the gift of purchasing bees, chickens or ducks from Mennonite Central Committee, for families in need around the world. These animals are an invaluable source of both food and income. For a \$15 donation, you can choose an animal and receive a small gift card telling your special someone which animal was purchased for them. When you participate in this Christmas Giving Project, we'll place an animal ornament on our Christmas tree. Hopefully, by Christmas, we'll have a tree covered with ornaments, and 30 animals headed to families who need them!

Paula Holtzinger, a graduate of Eastern Mennonite University's Center for Justice and Peacebuilding, provides insight on **how to effectively handle conflict**, through listening, leaning in, and utilizing resources. Read her thoughts here:
mennoniteusa.org/listening-leaning-in

On the one-year anniversary of the beginning of the Israel-Hamas war, Oct. 7, Amy Yoder McGloughlin, conference minister for Allegheny Mennonite Conference, reflected on how the **imagery of Rachel's tears applies to the current war**. Read her reflections here:

mennoniteusa.org/anniversary-israel-hamas-war

Announcements from Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)

Yule love this! Join us for a live, online event on December 3, at 11:00 AM CST/10:00 AM MST as we take you behind the scenes of MCC's Christmas Giving Guide. Discover the impact behind each gift and how your generosity makes a difference. Learn more and register to join this event at

mcc.org/yule-love-this.

MCC Open House, Tuesday, Dec. 3 from 2pm-4pm All are welcome to come see the updated space at MCC Central States in North Newton. Bring your Christmas shopping list to get your alternative Christmas gifts purchased from our tree! Visit with MCC staff, get a tour while you enjoy some snacks. We can't wait to see you at the Open House, 121 E. 30th St, North Newton! mcc.org/open-house

Giving Tuesday at MCC, Tuesday, Dec. 3 from 6:30pm-8pm

We're excited to host this annual evening of service to kick off your holiday season! This all-ages event is focused on service and fellowship. Please bring new dark colored hand towels with you – the more you bring, the more hygiene kits we can pack! There will be Christmas cards to write in and comforters to tie AND snacks to enjoy. What a great way to give back on Giving Tuesday! mcc.org/giving-tuesday

The HMC Board recommends making changes to the Constitution, which will more clearly align it with the Pastor Job Description & Pastor Accountability Policy.

Here are the proposed constitution changes being voted on at the annual meeting. Bolded red lettering notes the suggested additions and struck-out letters notes the suggested deletions.

ARTICLE IX: PASTOR

Section 1: Calling a Pastor

B. The Pastor ~~shall be elected for a term of 3 years~~ **will be called to serve the congregation** by a 2/3 majority vote of HMC members present at a meeting announced in two Sunday church bulletins, a minimum of 15 days prior to the public meeting. One-fourth of the active HMC membership shall constitute a quorum for the meeting to call a Pastor.

Section 3: Duties of the Pastor

C. The Pastor is an ex-officio member of all committees of all branches of the church with the exception of the pastor review committee, the pastor congregation relations committee, ~~and~~ the pastoral search committee, **and church board.**

Mennonite Church USA convention planners have released the tentative event schedule and learning track descriptions for next year's convention, **Follow Jesus '25, which will take place July 8-12, 2025**, at Koury Convention Center, in Greensboro, North Carolina. Read more here:

mennoniteusa.org/news/schedule-seminar-followjesus25

2024 Gift Discernment Process

The members of the Leadership Selection Committee (Brandon Waltner, Kenneth Birkey, and Michelle Neuharth) offer the HMC congregation the following slate of candidates for affirmation at the HMC annual meeting on December 4 at 7 PM. They will begin serving in 2025.

Church Chair: Todd Koerner (3-year term)

Deacon: Suzanne Koerner (3-year term)

Trustee: Cole Hofer (3-year term)

Christian Education Committee: No candidate (3-year term)

Leadership Selection Committee: Brandon Waltner (3-year term)

Pastor Congregation Relations Committee: Brandon Waltner (3-year term)

Assistant Head Usher: Jaden Thomas (1-year term and will become head usher in 2026)

Ushers: Aprille Birkey, Reiny Hofer, Mary Rensink, Marcia Schrock, Larry Tschetter, Brandon Waltner (all 1-year terms)

Connection Committee: No candidate (3-year term)

Library Committee: No candidate (3-year term)

Music Committee: Morgan Koehler (2-year term)

Scholarship Committee: Les Rensink (3-year term)