

Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church
Wichita, Kansas

Second Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2017

9:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

10:45 a.m.

Worship
Fellowship
Sunday School

Restore us, O God! We wonder.

*In our humanness, we want to know, to define,
and to have concrete answers for everything.*

However, life is filled with uncertainty.

*We trust that God, the great Mystery,
is always present with us in our wondering.*

Prelude

O Sacred Head
Linda Buller, organ

Bach

*Call to Worship

Barbara Gingrich

Leader: Mindful that God, the great Mystery, has called us,

All: we gather to worship.

Leader: Curious about God's ways in the world,

All: we gather to worship.

Leader: Wondering in the face of uncertainty,

All: we gather to worship.

Leader: Receive our worship and our wonderings, O God,
as we seek after you.

*Hymn

I sought the Lord

HWB 506

Confession and Words of Assurance

Leader: God of mystery, you call us into the unknown. But we
do not always follow willingly.

***All: We confess that we do not want to leave behind what
is familiar. We prefer looking like those around us.***

***We do not want to give up the comfort of our own
self-sufficiency. We prefer to stay in control.***

Leader: Forgive us, O Lord, when in our best effort to work for
you, we fail to move with your Spirit.

***All: Stir us deep within. Recover a sense of your holy
wonder and make room within us for the mystery of
your Spirit.***

(Pause for silent confession)

Leader: God of mystery,

All: Restore us.

Leader: Our help comes from the Lord, Maker of heaven and earth. The Lord will keep you from all harm. The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Amen.

Hymn I to the hills will lift my eyes HWB 169

Bringing Our First Fruits Offerings

Offertory Lord Jesus, Think on Me Carlson
Prayer of Dedication SJ 29

Time for Children Beth Lichty

Music for Meditation

Grayce Kaufmann, flute, Cindy Thompson, oboe

The Lesson John 3:1-17 (PB 863)

Sermon Mysteries of Our Faith Tom Harder

Hymn O God of mystery and might HWB 130

Work of the Church

Welcome, introduction of visitors
Announcements and Activities
Joys and Concerns
Prayer

*Hymn I know not why God's wondrous HWB 338

*Benediction

Postlude Grave Bach

*Congregation Stands

HWB =Hymnal, a Worship Book; SJ = Sing the Journey;
PB = Pew Bible; SS = Sing the Story

We light the peace lamp as a reminder that peace is God's will for all of creation, that Christ is the Prince of Peace, and that the Holy Spirit empowers us to proclaim boldly the gospel of peace.

We welcome you to this service of worship! Please write your name on the welcome pad at the end of your pew, and then return it to learn who is sitting near you. Please include your address if you are a visitor or new attender. A nursery for children up to 5 years of age is available in Room 204.

For those with hearing difficulties, assistive listening equipment (which includes headphones and a small, pocket-sized receiver) is available. Please ask one of the ushers for assistance.

Greeters this morning are Barbara Morrison and Fiona Okene. **Nursery workers during worship** are Erica Schmidt and Rachel Reimer Kouame; **during Sunday School**, Barbara Morrison. (**Nursery volunteers during Sunday school** need to check in with Ellen Ebersole in the preschool room to assist her if needed. The church currently has no babies in the nursery most Sundays.) **Fellowship workers** are Marie and Roy Krehbiel.

Following the worship service, you all are invited to the Fellowship Hall for coffee and casual conversation until the bell rings for Sunday School. (Please see the list of classes below.)

Two weeks from this morning, **March 26, the Faith and Issues class will host Marv Zehr from the WDC Church Planting Commission.** Marv will help us understand where the Aposento Alto church plant is now, in the "church planting process". He will offer explanations, answer questions and be available to receive ideas or feedback.

NEEDED: Volunteer to record Sunday School attendance. Involves minimal time - approximately 20 minutes during Sunday School time. Scheduled for 1 month at a time but only every 4th month. If interested, contact Melanie Mitchell.

The Board of Deacons think this year's Lenten season would be a good time to renew our house church program at LAMC (see the March Messenger cover article). We encourage all existing house churches to discuss their goals for the coming year, and to consider including a spiritual practice of some sort. Please also discuss the size of your group, and whether there is room for additional members. A deacon will be contacting each LAMC house

church in the coming weeks. **If you are not presently in a house church but would like to be, please contact Lois or Tom.**

Love to Sing? Mennonite World Conference with Arli Klassen, executive director of MWC, is holding an **international songfest here at LAMC next Saturday, March 18, 4:00.** This will be an opportunity to learn songs from the international songbook, created for the Pennsylvania 2015 Assembly. *Faspa* will follow the singing. Please RSVP by Tuesday, March 14, by calling the church office or emailing secretary@lorraineavenue.org. A freewill offering will be taken to cover expenses with surplus to go to MWC.

From our MCC Reps – our church needs to provide 30 pies to the MCC relief sale. Fruit pies only, no cream or custard pies. Donated cans of fruit pie fillings would be appreciated, and there will be a box in the kitchen to collect them before April 6. If you'd like to bake with a group, there will be a pie baking session on Thursday, April 6 from 9:30 to noon. If you are bringing pies for the sale, they must be here by Friday, April 7 at 9:00 am. You may donate zwiebach and breads too.

They're signing up FAST to cook **Wednesday night supper** – only **two** Wednesdays remain, March 29 and April 26! The sign-up sheet is on the table outside the office. There are cookbooks in the kitchen to help. Looking forward to breaking bread together!

The MCC Sale and Run for Relief at Hutchinson will be here before we know it (April 8) and that means **Darrel Doerksen is now in training!** He's registered to participate – again – in the annual 5K (3.1 miles) with the goal of raising as much money as possible for Mennonite Central Committee to help those in need at home and abroad. Pledge forms are in your church mailboxes. Pledges are a one-time amount and no amount is too small or too large. Please make checks payable to *Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale* and put *Run for Relief* on the memo line. You may put your check and pledge form in Darrel's church mail box or mail them to his address: 9414 Pebblebrook, Wichita KS 67207.

Dr. Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz, a historian of Native Americans, will speak tonight, 7 p.m. at the Metroplex, 29th and N. Oliver. The latest of her twelve books is "An Indigenous People's History of the United States." This *Global Learning Center* program is free and will also provide insight on the Standing Rock vigil that was closed down by the US government last week.

Prayer Request from Western District Conference:

Pray for participants leaving this week on a “Come and See” learning tour of Israel/Palestine, including Byron and Hilda Pellecer and Sandra Martinez from WDC.

Prayer Request from Mennonite Education Agency:

Please pray for the Bluffton University Camerata Singers as they will begin their bi-state tour on Thursday. They will return to campus for a home concert on Sunday, March 19, in Yoder Recital Hall.

Prayer Request from Mennonite Mission Network:

The DOOR program is hosting high-school and college groups during spring break. Pray for the students as they learn about faith, race, and justice through service.

Prayer for Peacemakers:

Creator God,
You created us for right and just relationships.
You have called your people back to your embrace
To that garden of equality and mutuality
To healthy relationships based on respect and love
To be laborers that harvest life.
Creator God, You created us.

Prayer Request from Sabeel:

2017 marks 100 years since the Balfour Declaration, a declaration that gave birth to the injustice, suffering and dispossession of the Palestinian people. Sabeel does not want to this year to be only a time of looking back. Through our 10th International Conference this week, let us aspire to make 2017 a biblical year of Jubilee, a year in which we proclaim liberty to our land and for all its inhabitants. Inspired by this vision of Jubilee, we want 2017 to mark a time for moving forward and overcoming the challenges of Israeli occupation and extremism. Pray for the success of the conference.

Visitors last week:

Jakob Whitson, Jennifer Collie, Samantha and Jimmy, Gary Reynolds, Wichita; Tim and Kathy Wiens, Newton; Peggy Rodney, Oregon; Judy Miller, Nixa, MO.

This Week at Church

Monday	Centering Prayer – Gathering Room	4:15 p.m.
	Yoga	5:30 p.m.
	Wellness Group	6:45 p.m.
Tuesday	Deacons Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Yoga	4:45 p.m.
	Wednesday Evening Activities (see below)	5:45 p.m.
Thursday	Lifestyle Strategies – Fellowship Hall	12:00 p.m.
	Serendipity Group	1:00 p.m.
	Mission Board Meeting	5:00 p.m.
	Lifestyle Strategies – Fellowship Hall	5:45 p.m.
Friday	Yoga	12:00 p.m.
Saturday	International Song Festival - Sanctuary	4:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Activity Schedule

(Supper is \$4.00 per person or \$15 per family)

5:45 – 6:30	Supper	Fellowship Hall
6:30 – 7:30	Children’s Activities	Classrooms/Playground
6:30 - 7:15	Bible Study	Gathering Room
7:15	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Nursery care for preschool children is provided

Elementary and Youth Sunday School Classes

Early Childhood (3- 4-year-olds) Shine! Curriculum Room 206
Teachers: Ellen Ebersole, Beth Lichty, Ruth Wiens

Kindergarten - First Grade Shine! Curriculum Room 201
Teachers: Kelly Cleary and Grayce Kaufmann

Second - Fourth Grades Shine! Curriculum Room 202
Teachers: Allison Wenzel and Julie Dunkelberger

Fifth – Eighth Grades Shine! Curriculum & Games B4
Teachers: Beverly Baumgartner, Nadine Reimer Penner, Joel Ewy

Eighth-Twelfth Grades Catechism Room 208
Teacher: Lois Harder

Adult Sunday School Classes

Empowerers Book Study Lois' Office (Basement)
contemplating our next book

Uniform Bible Study Series Gathering Room
led by Rose Moyer

Men's Group Book Study Library
Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time by Marcus Borg
(there will also be time for prayer and journaling)
led by Doug Everingham

Faith and Issues Mental Health and Wellness Fellowship Hall
and overcoming associated social stigma
Elsie Steelberg, MD

Mission Statement*

We are called to be followers of Christ
seeking God's will through the Holy Spirit
sharing the good news of love, peace,
healing, and hope
through worship, fellowship, and service
in our community, our city, and beyond.



**Foundational Scripture passages: Micah 6:8; Matthew 5-7; Mark 12:29-31; John 3:16; John 13:34-35; John 20:31; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 3:11; 1 Peter 4:7-11; 1 John 4:16.*

We welcome all persons without regard to their race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, social status, education, ability, or any other factor subject to discrimination and exclusion in our world. *"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28)*

Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church

655 S. Lorraine Avenue, Wichita, KS 67211: (316) 682-4555

Staff:

Pastor Lois Harder
Pastor Tom Harder

Office Hours

Tues. to Fri. 9:30-5:00

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Monday is the pastors' day off

Admin. Asst., Barbara Gingrich Tues. 9:30-1:30, Fri. 10:00-12:00

Admin. Asst., Linda Gebert Weds. 10:30 – 2:30, Thurs. 3:00 – 4:00

Bookkeeper, Beth Tanner Weds. mornings

Minister of Visitation Linda Buller 722-0390

Minister of CE/Worship Beverly Baumgartner 316-250-0712

Deacon on call – March Sylvia Schmidt 943-0012

Trustee on call (03/12-03/18) Wes Miller 680-8388

Custodian William Ozor

Choir Director Andrew Voth

Organists Linda Buller, Erica Schmidt

Pianist DeAnn Diller

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Barbara & Linda secretary@lorraineavenue.org

Treasurer murray@reimerpenner.com

Beth Tanner bookkeeper@lorraineavenue.org

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