



Mennonite Church
Of the Servant

Newsletter

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Excerpts from Recent Sermons

Lent 1, March 13, Jerry Truex

“According to the early church fathers, we are created in *the image* of God, but we have to work hard at acquiring the *likeness* of God.”

“Becoming like God is the goal or purpose of human life. Technically, this is called *theōsis* and it refers to the deification of human beings or becoming Christlike.”

“If we become attached, we develop ANXIETY and FEAR that we might not be able to satisfy our desires. Anxiety and fear leads to conflict within oneself and with others. When an addiction becomes overwhelming, people sacrifice jobs, health, friends, and family in order TO GET what they think they MUST have.”

Lent 2, March 20, Jerry Truex

“What is faith (*pistis*) for Paul? For Paul faith is synonymous with faithfulness, loyalty to God, and obedience to God (Rom. 1:5; 15:18; 16:26).”

“Notice that God does not punish people for disobedience or harmful behavior; rather disobedience and harmful behavior is the *result* of turning away from God. *Our experience of salvation or wrath is a natural consequence of our behavior.* Our *deeds* or *works* matter.”

Lent 3, March 27, Pat Cameron

“But let us not allow the symbolism of the water reference in this text block the literal meaning. The Israelites were thirsty. God provided them with water to quench their thirst. People are still thirsty today. Who will God use to quench their thirst? “

“With sustenance from Jesus, we can put down our jars filled with things that don’t bring us long-term satisfaction.”

“The living water that Jesus offers should not be separated from meeting people’s basic survival needs—and water is one of the most basic.”

For more, see www.mcswichita.net

The New Look

The Newsletter has a new look this month. Doreene Esau-Rutherford has been the editor of the Newsletter for 32 months, since August 2008. Thank you, Doreene!

Vangie Truex, (with the help of Jerry Truex) is stepping in as an interim editor while waiting for the *real* editor to reveal him or her self!

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Iglesia Mennonita Hispana

Iglesia Mennonita Hispana (temporary name of the new church plant in Wichita) has been underway for several months now. Pastor Jaime Cazares works quarter-time as the interim church planter. He has been building relationships with several people in the community and there is a core group of new believers gathered on Mon-

day and Friday nights for bible study, worship and fellowship in a home.

The three area Mennonite Churches support the new church administratively, financially and prayerfully.

The church plant support group is waiting on two possible candidates for full-time church planter

to complete the MLI (ministerial leadership information) process with Mennonite Church USA. After this is finished, they will be ready to interview.

May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and grow the new church! Nita Nikkel

Prayer Requests:

1. Continued prayers for Japan as they respond to the devastation caused by the earthquake and tsunami. Pray for wisdom for the Christians in the country as they seek to respond with compassion.
2. Pray for Erna Jeffries. Erna was diagnosed with pneumonia Thursday, March 24. Please pray for her healing...and call her once in a while to see how she is doing.
3. Pray for the homeless in our city; for protection, comfort, guidance
4. Pray for MC and Tavyn and relationship for Tavyn's father.



Moment for Mission

April 3-Environmental Concerns

April 10-MCC Relief Sale report

April 17-MCC & Immigration

April 24--None

**You are invited to our
Covenanting Service,
Wednesday, April 20**

Announcements:

1. We now have a Facebook page, managed by MC.
2. MCC sale is April 8-9 at the Fairgrounds in Hutchinson.
3. Covenanting Service April 20, 6:30—8 pm. Bring finger foods. Share your pilgrimage with one other member prior.
4. Coming up: MCS retreat at Camp Mennoscah May 7-8.
5. Mother 2 Mother: going to the circus April 16. Easter Celebration later in month.

Worship in April

Becoming human: called and shaped by Jesus.

This is the theme for Lent this year. What does it mean to be human?

Lent is the season of the church year in which we focus particular attention on foundational questions of our existence. This Lent season we invite you to ask: What does it mean for us to be the created and recreated images of God? How may we become *authentically* human?

From the Leader, Winter 2010/11.

So far, we have heard teaching on (1) Shaped by Testing, (2) Shaped by New Birth and (3) Shaped through Thirst. We continue with (4) Called to Light (5) Called to Life and (6) Called to Life.



April 3—Worship leader, Doug Von; teaching by Jerry Truex; Communion

April 10—Worship leader, Steve & Nita Nikkel; teaching by Lois Barrett

April 17—Worship leader, Doug Von; teaching by Pat Cameron

April 20—Covenant Service, Lois Barrett

April 24—Worship leader, Vangie Truex; teaching by Jerry Truex; Healing Prayer

Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters,*

³ he restores my soul.*

He leads me in right paths* for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,*

I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely* goodness and mercy* shall follow me

all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Kýrie Eléison

Kýrie eléison is our song of the month. It is a Greek phrase retained in Christian liturgy throughout the centuries, often said or sung in response by the congregation (Greek: Κύριε ἐλέησον).

It has its Biblical origins in verses like 1 Chronicles 16:34:

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love (mercy) endures for ever.

The parable of the Publican in Luke 18:9-14 further defines this phrase.

But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!"

Servant Groups



A servant group is an intentional face-to-face group (3-12 people) who meet at a regular time (often twice a month) to grow in Christ and actualize God's reign. We have five groups.

Psychosynthesis Study Group. This group meets on the 2nd the 4th Wednesday of each month. We are currently reading two books, one by Will Parfitt entitled, [Psychosynthesis](#), and the other by Joyce Hudson entitled, [Natural Spirituality](#). At the meetings, we discuss the books and talk about the spiritual exercises we practiced. Between meetings we practice the various exercises from dream journaling to medi-

tation to guided imagery. Contact Cindy Snider at 832-0050 or Jerry Truex at 263-0204.

Lectio Divina Servant Group. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 8 pm at the church. We read scripture using lectio divina and also examine our day. Accountability, sharing, singing, and prayer is also part for practice. For more information, contact Nita at 620-217-0249.

Womens' Dscipleship Group. This is a women's group focusing Bible Study, discussion, and prayer. We meet on the 4th Sunday of every month after church at Cindy's home. Contact Cindy at 832-0050 (cgswriter@aol.com).

Faith Issues Group. This is a women's reading and discussion group that meets on alternate Saturday afernoons for about 90

minutes. Currently, we are studying [An Altar in the World](#) by Barbara Brown Taylor. We invite women who want to nurture their faith through intentional, focused discussion on faith issues to join us. Contact Vangie at 263-0204.

New Servant Group: After two organizational meetings, a new servant group has begun. The group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 7:30 -9:00 p.m., with the first "official" meeting of the group on Tuesday, January 11, at Pat Cameron's home, 1337 Wellington Place. This group will meet for worship, study, sharing, prayer, and focus on its "outward" mission a bringing a religious perspective to immigration issues. For more information, contact Pat at 371-8274.

Childcare

April 3--Jenny/MC

April 10--Karissa/Geneva

April 17--Jenny/Sally

April 24--Alex/Doreene



Attendance in March

Mar 6	28
Mar 9	14
(Ash Wed)	
Mar 13	29
Mar 20	31
Mar 27	23

MCS April 2011

Verse of the Month: Psalm 23
 Song of the month: Kyrie

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Potluck	4	5	6	7	8 MCC Sale	9 MCC Sale <i>Happy Birthday, Pat Cameron MC McAdams</i>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 <i>Happy Birthday, Cody Esau- Rutherford Cindy Mayo</i>
17 PALM SUNDAY	18	19	20 Covenanting Service	21 <i>Happy Birthday, Kiera Celeste</i>	22 Good Friday	23 <i>Happy Birthday, Jeanette Stucky</i>
24 EASTER NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	25	26 <i>Happy Birthday, Alex Esau- Rutherford</i>	27 <i>Happy Birthday, Warren Thanmithak</i>	28	29	30



Mennonite Church Of the Servant

Our mission is to welcome all people into a community covenanted to follow the way of Jesus Christ through

- Practicing peace and reconciliation,
- Sharing our lives in love and accountability, and
- Bringing the good news of the reign of God to the world.

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

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