

**Wherever you are in life's journey and your spiritual journey,
you are welcome here, where together we share God's love.**

SOUTHERN HILLS MENNONITE CHURCH
511 SE 37th Street, P.O Box 5067, Topeka, KS 66605-0067
785-266-9403 Church@SouthernHillsMC.org

July 15, 2018 62:28

Prelude: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" JS Bach
"Toccatina and Fugue in D minor" JS Bach

9:30 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE

Welcome and Introduction of Guests (*Please fill out the welcome pads.*)

Announcements

*Passing the Peace

*Musical Response

*Call to Worship (adapted from *Words for Worship 2*)

LEADER: Eternal God, we have come to worship you.

PEOPLE: Gather us in.

LEADER: We come full of gratitude for what has been.

PEOPLE: Gather us in.

LEADER: We come grieving those things which must come to an end.

PEOPLE: Gather us in.

LEADER: We come apprehensive of the unknown that lies ahead.

PEOPLE: Gather us in.

LEADER: We trust in your love for each one of us and your guidance
and strength for each day.

**PEOPLE: Gather us in to your unending love, your faithful care,
and your abundant grace.**

*Invocation

*Hymn: "Here in this place" HWB 6 (blue)

Invitation to the Children: "Gather 'Round" Screen
Time with the Children Cynthia

Children's and Folk/Bluegrass Songs Roger

Offertory Prayer STJ 148 (green)
Presenting our Offerings

(*Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plates.*)

Offertory: "Meditation on 'Let the hungry come to me'" Callahan

Sharing and Prayer

Scripture Reading

Remarks

Hymn: "I come with joy to meet my Lord" HWB 459 (blue)

The Lord's Supper

Invitation

Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn: "For the bread" HWB 477 (blue)

Litany of Release and Commissioning Insert

*Song: "The Lord lift you up" STJ 73 (green)

*Benediction STJ 158 (green)

*Organ Response

*Postlude: "Toccatina from Fifth Symphony" Widor

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\*Please stand as you are able.

*Hearing assist devices & large print bulletins are available from the ushers.*

*STJ = Sing the Journey (green); STS = Sing the Story (purple)*

*HWB = Hymnal: A Worship Book (blue)*

|                                                      |                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Pastor: Roger Neufeld Smith                          | Saxophone: Steve Funk           |
| Associate Pastor, Organist:<br>Cynthia Neufeld Smith | Cello/Bass: Carolyn Voth        |
| Worship Leader: Wayne Stucky                         | Nursery Helper: Zaka Blocker    |
| Communion Organist: Kathy Rich                       | Greeters: Phil & Pat Esau       |
| Guitar: Tom Goering                                  | Ushers: Dale & Karen Burkholder |

10:30 a.m. – Coffee and Conversation at the Holy Grounds Café.

10:45 a.m. – Intergenerational Summer Sunday School: "**Serve the Lord with gladness: Recycling and Re-purposing**" led by Karen Burkholder and Brooke Slipke. People of all ages are invited and expected!

**Noon – Potluck dinner. Bring food to share.**

THIS WEEK

Thursday, 9-11:00 a.m. – Senior Coffee Fellowship

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m.- Worship – Jesse Waller will preach and Carolyn Voth will lead the worship service.

10:30 a.m. – Coffee and Conversation at the Holy Grounds Café.

10:45 a.m. – Intergenerational Summer Sunday School

NURSERY SCHEDULE:

July 22 – Kaitlyn Shima

July 29 – Zaka Blocker

Aug 5 – Zoe Burkholder

CLEANING SCHEDULE (New/Old):

July 21 – Hershberger (N), Goering (0)

July 28 – Shima/Young (N&O)

Aug 4 – Funk (N), Kilmer (0)

COMING EVENTS

July 27-30 – Western District Conference sessions

July 29 – Last Sunday of summer Sunday School term

August 19 – First Sunday of fall Sunday School term

**Southern Hills Mennonite Church Mission Statement** (from the church constitution): *The purpose of this congregation shall be to live by and promote, through worship, study, giving and witness, the heritage of the Anabaptist-Mennonite expression of the Christian faith and life in contemporary form. We believe this to mean that a congregation is to be a body of Christians committed to the Lordship of Christ, who, by the power of the Holy Spirit, seek to live lives of discipleship, to practice the ethic of love and nonresistance in all human relationships, and to adhere to the historic peace position.*

Southern Hills Bulletin Insert 7/15/18

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember the **potluck dinner TODAY** after Sunday School for a final good-bye with Roger and Cynthia. Come and eat even if you didn't bring food.

**Cynthia and Roger's new postal address after July 30 will be:**

1344 Dorgan St., Jackson, MS 39204.

**Their new email addresses will be:**

- [rogerneufeldsmith@gmail.com](mailto:rogerneufeldsmith@gmail.com)

- [cynthianeufeldsmith@gmail.com](mailto:cynthianeufeldsmith@gmail.com)

**Please add more events and comments to the Neufeld Smith timeline in Fellowship Hall.** They don't have to be profound. They can be personal – or fun – or memorable. Find markers next to the timeline.

**ALMOST FREE!! – Bibles and books (mostly brand new!), magazines and knick knacks (mostly old) from the Neufeld Smith exclusive collection!** The only cost – writing a comment on the Neufeld Smith timeline for every item taken. Check out the table in the Fellowship Hall next to the Neufeld Smith timeline.

**Thanks to Elizabeth Unruh** for making “mini-zwieback” for our communion bread today! Taste and see that the Lord is good!

**Please submit articles for the August newsletter by Monday, July 23.**

On Sunday evening, Aug. 5, "**Welcoming the Stranger: Arts on the Green**" in **Manhattan, KS**, will be an ecumenical benefit event for Annunciation House in El Paso, Texas, This is an opportunity to support immigrant hospitality at the shelter where **Elsa Goossen** and others serve as year-long volunteers. Hosted by Seven Dolors Catholic Church Social Action Committee, the come-and-go event will take place from 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. at the corner of Houston St. and Juliette Avenue in Manhattan. Come enjoy a festive evening, including activities for children, arts and crafts, a bake sale featuring Hispanic and Mennonite foods, poetry readings by **Raylene Hinz-Penner** and others, and music provided by the 606 Rounders Mennonite String Band, Tony Ridder and the Grateful Dudes, and Annunciation House volunteers. For more information, contact Rachel Goossen at [rachelwg@aol.com](mailto:rachelwg@aol.com).

### LAST SUNDAY MORNING

**Attendance: 97      Offering: \$3,918.00**

**Visitors:** Andrew Ewy; Brooke Owens; Esther & Emmeline Walker; Lenore Waltner; Corkill Family

### **I Care announcements**

- **I Care**, in conjunction with Highland Park UMC and Heather Rake, will be holding a **“Back To School Clothing Fair” Friday August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9 to 6 and Saturday August 4<sup>th</sup>, 8 to 1 at the Highland Park UMC.**
- Free clothing will be available, as supply lasts, to kids attending Highland Park Central, Ross Elementary, Scott Magnet, Williams Magnet, Eisenhower, Highland Park High, Berryton, SHES, Tecumseh North and South, Shawnee Heights Middle and High School.
- **Donations of clothing are needed** and can be brought to church or the Highland Park UMC any time before the event. Set up will be Thursday August 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- **Volunteers to set up and work the event are also needed.**

### ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS

- Mennonite Mission Network, May 2018 – describes **Service Adventure**, the program Roger & Cynthia will be working with in Jackson, MS
- Thank you note from Tammy Flaming (for the DeWayne Dirks family)
- Raylene Hinz-Penner featured in The Topeka Capital-Journal newspaper (July 4<sup>th</sup>-front page)
- Bryan Moyer Suderman, “*songs of faith for small and tall*,” Sun., July 22 Hesston and Whitestone Mennonite Churches
- HI-Crest NIA July 2018 Newsletter

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

**Last Sunday we prayed for:**

- Leanne Kilmer's friend, Mary, in the loss of Mary's daughter to liver failure.
- Megan Klaassen's friend, whose newly born daughter remains in the hospital with some medical complications.
- Tom and Deb Goering's friend who died in a freak accident this past week.
- Ellen Kroeker as she travels to Odessa, Ukraine, to trace the escape route of her ancestors from the Soviet Union almost one hundred years ago.
- Brenner Burkholder as he hikes and works at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp this summer before entering voluntary service this fall.

**We gave thanks for:**

- Tom Goering's good recovery from surgery.
- renters for Neufeld Smith's house for the next year.
- a good trip for the Juhnke/Boucher family, remembering grandpa Dwayne.

**Update:**

- We learned that Matt Bauer, former attender, passed away on May 7, 2018. See a brief obituary on the community news bulletin board.

## Sunday Worship this Summer

- July 22 – Jesse Waller, chaplain at the Topeka Correctional Facility (and a relatively new attendee at Southern Hills) will preach. Bruce Wedel will do the children's story on the theme "good things can come from unexpected places."
- July 29 – Phil Esau will preach
- August 5 – Raylene Hinz-Penner will share about her "Borderlands Learning Tour" with Mennonite Central Committee in June.
- August 12 – Western District Conference delegates will report on WDC's annual meeting in central Kansas on July 27-28.
- August 19 – We will observe Christian Education Sunday. Brenner Burkholder will share about his volunteer assignment with PULSE in Pittsburgh, PA. The SHMC youth will also report on their trip to the Heifer Global Village on June 21-24.

## "Serve the Lord with Gladness"

Inter-generational Activities Sunday mornings at 10: 45 a.m.

- July 15: Serve the Lord with gladness: **recycling and re-purposing** led by Brooke Slipke and Karen Burkholder
- July 22: Serve the Lord with gladness: **God's creatures great and small (Session 2)** led by Sue Ann Funk.
- July 29: Serve the Lord with gladness: **your neighbors**, led by Lavina Wall

## LITANY OF RELEASE AND COMMISSIONING

LEADER: We have worshipped, prayed, laughed and cried together. We have hoped, dreamed, worked and shared meals together.

**CONGREGATION: Now it is time to say goodbye.**

LEADER: Parting is bittersweet. Memories flood our minds and hearts.

**CONGREGATION: We say goodbye with a mixture of gratitude and sadness.**

LEADER: In saying goodbye to Roger and Cynthia, we release them from responsibilities as pastors of Southern Hills Church. Will you join me in this release?

**CONGREGATION: With God's help, we release Roger and Cynthia from their responsibilities as our pastors.**

*PASTORS: Will the Church Chair come to the pulpit? As a symbol of this release, we give to you, Steve, a compass. We pray that under your leadership as chair, this congregation will keep on discerning and following God's direction, being sensitive to where God's Spirit is leading.*

**CONGREGATION: With God's help, we will keep on following God's leading.**

*PASTORS: Will the Diaconate Chair come to the pulpit? To you, Norma, we give these cards which are sent to people who are experiencing illness. We pray that under your leadership of the Diaconate, this congregation will keep on caring for one another, in familiar ways and in ways yet to be imagined. We also give you this baptismal pitcher which belonged to this congregation before we began here as pastors, and which symbolizes the ongoing growth of the congregation. We pray God's blessing on this church in its ongoing ministry.*

**CONGREGATION: With God's help, we will keep on caring for each other and welcoming newcomers.**

*PASTORS: Will the Worship Committee Chair come to the pulpit? To you, Larry, we give the office copy of the hymnal and other songbooks in which we keep track of the songs we sing each Sunday. We pray that under your leadership of the Worship Committee, this congregation will continue to worship God, combining old and new expressions in vital, authentic ways.*

**CONGREGATION: With God's help, we will continue to worship God in ways that are authentic for us.**

*PASTORS: Will the Trustee Chair come to the pulpit? To you, Doug, as chair of the trustees, we give our keys to the church and church offices, recognizing that this will no longer be the setting in which we minister.*

**CONGREGATION: With God's help, we release you as our pastors.**

LEADER: As we release Roger and Cynthia from ministry in our congregation, we also ask God's blessing on their future ministry with Service Adventure in Jackson, Mississippi.

**CONGREGATION: We offer our support to you, Roger and Cynthia, as your ministry unfolds in a new setting. We pray God's blessings on you and on us as we begin a new relationship with each other, in which you are no longer our pastors.**

LEADER: Now I ask you, Roger and Cynthia, do you release this congregation from its loyalty to you as their pastors? Do you release its members from turning to you and depending on you to provide the pastoral ministries they seek?

*PASTORS: We do, with God's help. We pray God's blessings on each person here and pray God's blessings on Southern Hills Church in its continued ministry.*

LEADER: Let us join in prayer. Eternal God, you have been our refuge and strength through the thirty years this body has spent together. Give us a strong sense of your presence as we now go our separate ways. Enlarge our faith that we may see your unfolding purpose in this time. Be our guide through dark and doubt. Grant us peace in doing your will. Bless us as we move into your future. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.