

## Focus statement:

Discipleship can simply be defined as following Jesus, but since the earthly Jesus is not with us, discipleship or following Jesus calls for an imaginative, creative and faithful interaction with the living spirit of Christ through scriptural interpretation, church tradition, prayer, spiritual discernment and communal formation. The story of Jesus in the Gospels is our primary source for following in the way of Jesus. Worship is the sacred space where the church is formed by the story of Jesus.

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## Gathering

**Gathering song:** *Turn your eyes upon Jesus* ..... \*\*CS 56

### Welcome and announcements

**Prelude** ..... Nora Miller, piano

**Call to worship and prayer** ..... Pastor Joel Schroeder

One: God calls out  
Many: to all who would follow.  
One: God calls us  
Men: in creation and within the human heart.  
One: God calls us  
Women: in scripture and through the church.  
One: God calls us  
Many: in history and human experience.  
One: God calls us  
Men: to life and wholeness.  
One: God calls us  
Women: to healing and hope.  
One: God calls us  
Many: to follow in the way of Jesus.  
One: God calls out  
Many: to all who would follow.

## Praising

**Songs of faith:** *Longing for light*  
*Lord, you have come to the lakeshore*..... \*H 229

**Greet one another; children come forward**

**Children's focus**.....Erin Graber

**Offering:** Mennonite Mission Network

**Offertory**

(Please pass the welcome pads)

## Confession

**Prayer of confession**

**Assurance of forgiveness:** 1 John 1:9

## Hearing God's Word

**Scripture:** John 13:34-35; Matthew 7:24-27

**Sermon:** *Who now would follow Christ*..... Pastor Anita Kehr

## Responding to God's Word

**Song of faith:** *I bind my heart this tide*.....H 411

**Pastoral prayer** .....Pastor Kay Schroeder

## Sending

**Sending song:** *Guide my feet* (stanzas 1,2,4,5) ..... H 546

**Sending words**

**Postlude**

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\*H denotes Hymnal: A Worship Book    \*\*CS denotes Companion Songbook

Chorister: Paul Schrag

Childcare: Amanda Menninga, Camryn Entz

Ushers: Rick Ortman, Rod Schmidt, John Good, Janice Good

Audio Tech: Ryan Goertzen-Regier

Video/Lighting Tech: Eric Murphy

Visuals: Carol Hiebert

Property: Jordan Miller

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## WEEK AT A GLANCE

**Sunday, August 5—*Journey Forward: Follow Jesus***—John 13:34-35,  
Matthew 7:24-27

9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Worship Service  
6:30 PM Celebration of God's Goodness and Faithfulness—Front Lawn

**Thursday, August 9**

7:00 PM Church Board

**Sunday, August 12—*Journey Forward: Witness to God's Peace***—Micah 6:6-8,  
Ephesians 2:13-22

9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Worship Service

### Upcoming Worship Services

August 19—*Journey Forward: Experience Transformation*—Mark 1:9-11  
August 26—Worship in the Park—*Some Glad Morning*  
(No Sunday School)

**OUR VISION**—Together in Christ: rooted deeply, reaching widely, loving well

**OUR MISSION**—With Jesus as our center, we are called to be:

- Faith-Focused
- Mission-Minded
- Community-Connected

### FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

429 E. First Street PO Box 291 Newton, KS 67114-0291

Phone: 316-283-0273

E-mail: [office@firstmennonitenewton.org](mailto:office@firstmennonitenewton.org)

Website: [www.firstmennonitenewton.org](http://www.firstmennonitenewton.org)

#### Pastoral Team

Anita Kehr, Pastor.....316-283-5598  
Joel Schroeder, Pastor of Missional Ministries.....316-215-2497  
Kay Schroeder, Pastor of Worship and Visitation.....316-217-1272

#### Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr.....316-283-0273



- Identity and Context
- Follow Jesus
- Witness to God's Peace
- Experience Transformation

## FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

429 EAST FIRST STREET • NEWTON, KS 67114 • 316-283-0273

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 2018**

### **In fulfillment of the Hope Through Understanding Team Report**

recommendation (April 2018, p.7), the Caregiving and Membership Commission will be planning and providing an opportunity early in the new year for the congregation to express, through structured dialogue, the personal impact, challenges, and learnings of the last two years. If you would like to talk prior to this structured dialogue, CMC members are willing and available to listen. Commission members are June Thomsen, Sean Claassen, Renee Hamm, Woody Miller, Cindy Unruh, and Chris Weaver.

**ONE GLAD MORNING** is the theme for this year's Worship in the Park, Sunday, August 26, at Athletic Park. The Flannelbacks will be leading us in a morning of gospel music. Bring your family and friends as we enjoy creation and sing praise to our Creator. The worship service will start at the normal 10:30 AM and there will be no Sunday School. Bring your lawn chairs/blankets. A carry-in picnic lunch will follow the service.

**This week the Caregiving and Membership Commission** will send postcard invitations to all of our "Additional Members and Friends" within a 30-mile radius of Newton, inviting them to attend our August 26 Worship in the Park Service and potluck lunch. **We need your help in two ways:** first, please plan to bring extra food, as these folks will be coming as our guests; second, think of someone you personally have not seen in church for a while, and make a special effort to include them in our gathering on August 26. Thanks for your help!

**Homeless Shelter**—Our next week to serve New Hope Homeless Shelter is August 8-14. If you are able to help, contact Lee Penner at 316-284-2154 or Ruby Moore at 620-837-4876.

**As you notice increasing numbers of "Back-to-school" sales,** don't forget to catch some of the bargains for the shoeboxes we'll be packing this fall for Operation Christmas Child! As a reminder, all items that fit in a shoebox are welcome, not just crayons and pencils.

**At the recommendation of the Safety Team,** the Property Committee is asking for your help to keep our facility safe for all who use it. Please check in with the church office if you arrive during business hours. Please also let the church office know ahead of time when you are using the building in the evening, and keep doors locked at all times. You may need to wait by the door until all in your group arrive. If you have questions about this, please contact the church office (and then Tracy can call me!). Thank you.

~Jordan Miller for the Property Committee

**Cards are available in the pews** for you to share your thoughts, prayer requests, ask for a visit, or whatever you would like to communicate. Remember to sign them and put them in the offering plate.

### **Community Announcements**

**The Kidron Bethel Parkinson's Support Group** will meet in Menno Hall August 7. Several brief inspirational videos will be viewed followed by small group discussion. All are invited.

**We have a lot to celebrate** this summer at Camp Mennoscah! On August 12, 6:30 PM, we'll gather together at Hesston Mennonite Church to celebrate a summer of friends and faith with our annual Camp Sing. There will be joyous singing followed by popcorn and generic pop—a camp standard! Add Camp Sing to your calendar and we'll see you there!

**Opportunities to learn about immigration and respond with MCC.** MCC works with the issue of migration around the world and walks with people who migrate, people who struggle not to migrate and people who provide hospitality to migrants in many places. **Learn:** Consider participating in the MCC Migration Learning Tour to Guatemala and Honduras on November 7-17. **Pray:** Pray for the migrants who made the difficult choice to leave their home communities in the hope of a better life, for the detained immigrants as they wait in detention and for the border portal agents to execute their job justly and humanely. **Advocate:** Contact your elected officials to express your desire for more humane immigration policies. **Serve:** Become an immigration court watcher through the Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants. **Give:** Support our work to support the reunification of families on the South Texas Border. Within the coming weeks, 1500-2000 families are expected to be released from detention. MCC is working with local partners to support families with locally purchased grocery gift cards, clothing and housing assistance. Checks made out to MCC with "Central States Immigration" in the memo line will go directly to support this response. Checks should be sent to MCC U.S., PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501. Or you can donate money to MCC for ongoing work with issues surrounding immigration. For more information on how you can get involved, visit [mcc.org/immigration](http://mcc.org/immigration).

**Mental Health Spiritual Retreat** at Camp Mennoscah, September 2-3! This retreat is for individuals affected by mental illness, including family members and friends. Come support each other, have fun and enjoy being at camp. Register online at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org) or call us at 620-297-3290 for a brochure

**Offender Victim Ministries** is offering a FREE training for new and current volunteers to learn more about Neighborhood Accountability Boards in Harvey and McPherson counties. Join us **Saturday, September 8, 9:30 AM-4:00 PM** at the Harvey County Courthouse Community Room (lower level), 800 N. Main, Newton. Lunch included.

**Join us for the grand opening and dedication** of Mullet Place, Schowalter Villa's new addition in Hesston, on September 7, 10:00 AM (200 W. Cedar, Hesston, KS 67062). Schowalter Villa is also now taking reservations for assisted living homes in Mullet Place. Call 888-388-7445 for more information about living options. Schowalter Villa belongs to Bluestem Communities, a nonprofit organization in central Kansas made up of several retirement communities and programs dedicated to serving individuals 55 and better.

**Be Brave, Be Bold, Be You!** Women & Girls Retreat 2018. The schedule and registration forms for the 2018 Women & Girls Retreat, September 7-9 at Camp Mennoscah, are now available in the church office. Rachel Ringenberg Miller, pastor of Shalom Mennonite Church in Newton, will be the featured speaker. Many interesting and fun seminars are planned, along with plenty of time to relax and connect with nature and friends. This retreat is open to all women and girls grade 3 and older. Registration forms are due August 27.

**Work and Play Camp at Camp Mennoscah!** Everyone is invited to join us September 21-25 (or any part of those days) as we work on fun projects and spend time building up camp and our community of faithful volunteers. No fee required; donations welcome! Register online at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org) or call us at 620-297-3290.

**Join the upcoming MCC Haiti Learning Tour** from September 22 to 27. Learn from Haitian farmers, artisans, community organizers and human rights advocates about how they—with your support—are building a brighter future for their communities. Contact Jordan Penner at [jordanpenner@mcc.org](mailto:jordanpenner@mcc.org) or 316-727-6837 for more information.

**Save the date! September 27–29:** Rooted and Grounded: A Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, Elkhart, Indiana. Imagine and embody alternative ways of relating to the land that cultivate *shalom* among human beings, the rest of creation and God. This three-day event will weave together worship, theology, biblical study and praxis. Keynote speakers: Valerie Bridgeman, Ph.D., and Karennia Gore. For more information contact: [ambs.edu/rootedandgrounded](http://ambs.edu/rootedandgrounded).

**WELCOME TO EVERYONE** who has come to worship and especially to those who are here for the first time. May you experience the loving embrace of God today. Nursery Care, infants to age 2, is provided during the worship service in the nursery located at the back of the Sanctuary. Childcare is available for children ages 2-4 during the second half of the worship service in Room 223. If you need help finding your way, ask an usher at the door. We would be glad to help you!

**“Meet the Congregation”** displays now feature BJ and Kim Stahly and family (Court Area display case); Phil and Linda Gaertner and family (Library display case) and Shannon Bartel and family (Court Area display case). Take a look at these display cases and learn more!

### **First Mennonite Church by the numbers**

#### **Attendance:**

•Worship—203 Visitors—16 Sunday School—136

**Offering:** Last week's offering for the Scholarship Fund was \$2,206 and Local Mission Fund was \$4,333. The offering for August 12 is for Local Mission.

**The Living Stones Sunday School Class** will have speakers during the Sunday School hour for the summer. Everyone is welcome to come and listen. Today the speaker is from Casa Betania. Next Sunday, August 12, the speaker will be from the Safe House.

**Come celebrate with homemade ice cream and fellowship this evening!** The Church Board is sponsoring an Ebenezer celebration: to remember that "thus far the Lord has helped us" (1 Samuel 7:12) and also that the Lord will continue to help us as we go forward. **The celebration is today, 6:30-8:00 PM**, on the front lawn of the church. Check your church mailboxes for more information. **Everyone is welcome to come.**

**Most of the FMC families have told us** about their lives in the showcases. It appears that we are nearing completion. We have a few more families to contact. If you have not been contacted and would be open to telling us your story, please call Delora Decker or Betty Pauls at 316-283-6512.

**A new membership exploration class is being formed.** If you have interest in learning more about First Mennonite Church and in exploring the possibility of membership, please talk to Anita Kehr. The class schedule will be made around participants' schedules.