

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 1—First Sunday of Lent: Show us your hiding place—

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19;
Matthew 4:1-11

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

Tuesday, March 2

4:00 PM Worship Commission

Wednesday, March 4

5:30 PM Meal served by Living Stones/FIRST Sunday School
Menu: Papa John's Pizza, Salad and Cupcakes
6:45 PM Children-ages 2 years to 5th grade—Gather in Room 123
6:45 PM Adult Bible Study
6:45 PM Choir (Sanctuary)
6:45 PM Jr. High (Room 126)
6:45 PM Youth Group (Youth Rooms)

Saturday, March 7

8:30 AM Prayer Retreat

Sunday, March 8—Lent 2: Show us your faithful, loving presence—

Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

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

Upcoming Worship Services

March 15—Lent 3: Show us the Rock of our salvation—Exodus 17:1-7;
Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42



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**First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS
March 1, 2020**

SR. HIGH YOUTH



- **Sunday School/Worship**—Sunday, March 1, 9:15-11:30 AM
- **Make "1252" Verenike!**—Tuesday, March 3 right after school (or whenever you can get to church) until we are done! Supper included!
- **Verenike meal prep fun and other cool stuff**—Wednesday, March 4, 6:45-8:15 PM (after family meal, 5:30-6:30 pm)

In these weeks, the office showcase is featuring Theresa Klassen and Doug Graham's voluntary service experience in Arizona. The library showcase features Harland Unruh's hobbies.

Who is the distinguished, kindly-looking gentleman in the portrait just inside the door of the room which is across the hall from the church library? Why is "Warkentin Memorial Fellowship Room" inscribed on the door's plaque? To get the answer, view the new exhibit which gives a glimpse into the life of a past church member. Learn how he impacted our congregation as well as the wider church body. Compiled by the Historical Committee, the presentation is located in the corner display cabinet at the west end of the Gathering Area.

Believe it or not, it is time to sign up for summer camp at Camp Mennoscah. As we have in the past, the Nurture Commission will provide a \$100 scholarship to each camper from FMC and Casa Betania. You must sign up on the sign-up sheets in the Gathering Space to receive a camp scholarship from FMC. The \$100 scholarship will be paid directly to camp. To sign up for camp, go to www.campmennoscah.org and click on "Register Online"! If you have any questions about the camp scholarship, please contact Stephanie Weaver, stephweaver@live.com. If you would like to give to the camp scholarship fund, please make your check payable to FMC, designated to Camp Mennoscah Scholarships.

Feed Families in Need! The Outreach, Missions, and Peace Commission has partnered with the Chisholm Middle School social worker to provide six families in need with food over Spring Break. There is a box for each family with recommended food items listed in the Court Area. Let's try to fill each box with shelf-stable essentials before March 8! Let's show the love of Christ to our neighbors in this very practical way.

Youth Group Verenike Supper—As a fundraiser for our summer trip to Harlan, Kentucky, the Youth Group will be hosting a verenike supper on Wednesday, March 11, 5:30-7:00 PM. The menu will include verenike, ham gravy, sausage, green beans, zweibach, cherry moos. Vegetarian/gluten free/dairy free/sugar free options available. Friends and family are welcome! If you are homebound and would like to have a meal delivered, please call the church office.

Transition information: A Search Committee has been appointed by the Church Board: By the policy of the Constitution, the Search Committee includes the members of the Church and Staff Relations Committee (Jim Huxman, Ron Ratzlaff, Wendy Funk Schrag, Janice Good [ex officio as Church Board chair], Anita Kehr [ex officio as pastor]) and then these additional members: Sean Claassen, Miriam Goertzen-Regier, Payton Hiebert, Keith Knopp, Don Schmidt, and Jennie Wintermote. Their work will begin with completing the Congregational Information Form while waiting for congregational discernment and decision-making on new job descriptions for pastoral staff. Please pray for them as they begin their work.

Community Announcements

The 4th Annual Hymn Sing and Dessert Auction will be today, 4:00-6:00 PM at Tabor Mennonite Church, Newton. Join us for songs of worship, fellowship and desserts. Amazing desserts made by camp supporters will be auctioned off to raise funds to renovate our beloved amphitheater used for evening campfires. All donations up to \$5,000.00 will be matched!

The next concert of the Prairie Window Concert Series, with Flagship Romance, will be today, 4:00 PM, at the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston. Join us for an evening of great music and delicious food from Crust & Crumb in a prairie garden setting. Tickets: \$20 adults/\$10 kids, plus tax. To reserve your seats, purchase tickets online at dyckarboretum.org.

Kidron Bethel Parkinson's Support Group will meet March 3, 2:00 PM. Shana Gatschet, an occupational therapist who is dedicated to those with Parkinson's Disease and their families, will present the program. All are invited.

You are invited to join the fun at the 13th annual MCC Comforter Blitz on March 2, 3 and 4 at Journey Mennonite Church at the Yoder Campus, one mile north of Yoder, Kansas. Blitz times are Monday and Tuesday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, and Wednesday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. This event is hosted by Kansas Friends of MCC, an organization that supports the work of MCC. For more information check out mcc.org/comforter-blitz.

Hesston College Music and Theatre will present six performances of the musical *Tuck Everlasting* in the Keim Center Black Box Theater. Show times are 7:00 PM, March 4-7, with an extra 2:00 PM show on March 7, as well as a 2:00 PM showing on March 8. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$5 for students. Seating is limited so advanced ticket purchase is encouraged at hesston.edu/bookstore or by calling 620-327-8105. *Tuck Everlasting* is family-friendly and rated G, but due to length is recommended for ages 7 and up.

You are invited to celebrate the past and anticipate the future at the 100th annual meeting of Mennonite World Review Inc. on March 6 at Kauffman Museum. During the business meeting at 7:00 PM, editor **Paul Schrag** will announce the name of the

new, independent journalistic ministry that will begin in September with the merger of MWR and The Mennonite. At 7:45 PM, he will present “100 Years of Newsprint: A Century of Mennonite Publishing,” the story of the nonprofit company that publishes MWR.

Kauffman Museum First-Saturday Bird Walk—Saturday, March 7, 7:30 AM in the museum parking lot, corner of Main and 27th streets, North Newton. Experienced birders will lead a walk of 1 to 1.5 hours. Please be aware this is mostly on an unpaved trail and the terrain is sometimes sloping or steep.

The Newton Chorale will be presenting their Spring concert “Prelude to Spring” on Sunday, March 8, 7:00PM, at Bethel College Mennonite Church.

Everence will host its popular workshop, *Make Medicare an easy step*, in North Newton on Tuesday, March 10 and in Hutchinson on Thursday, March 12. Both will begin at 6:30 PM. Attendees will learn about the various Medicare plans and what they cover; plans that supplement Medicare; and enrollment details and deadlines. The workshop is free, but space is limited! Reserve your spot by contacting Michelle Ramer at 283-3800 or michelle.ramer@everence.com.

Newton Et Cetera Shop invites area organizations to apply for their annual Local Giving grants! Applications may be downloaded at newtonetceterashop.com and must be submitted by e-mail to localgiving@newtonetceterashop.com by April 13, 2020. Multiple grants will be awarded to selected groups by June 2020, in amounts up to \$5,000. For more information, please contact Sara Dick, general manager, Newton Et Cetera Shop, 619 N. Main Street, Newton KS 67114; 316-283-9461; or e-mail localgiving@newtonetceterashop.com.

Mennonite Mission Network has an immediate opening for a Donor Relations Representative who will help ensure the continued financial growth and stability of the agency by expanding the donor base through a program of database phone calling and extensive follow up. Also responsible for an assigned territory to develop relationships and achieve contributions from individual donors. See the complete position description at MennoniteMission.net/employment. To begin the application process send a resumé to StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net.

Service Adventure is a gap year program for young adults ages 17–20 that provides 10 ½ months of learning “on the field.” Take a break from the classroom, test out a vocation, experience self-discovery, all while serving God and living in Christian community. Learn more at MennoniteMission.net/Serve.

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 in Room 225. 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!

First Mennonite Church by the numbers

Attendance:

Worship—202; Visitors—10; Sunday School—140

Offering: Last week’s offering for Local Mission was \$5,061. The offering for March 8 is for Local Missions.

Receiving or has received care—Willis Harder, Wesley Hospital.

We welcome you to worship on this First Sunday of Lent. The lit candles on the communion table will decrease in number as we walk through the five Sundays of Lent and Palm Sunday. You will receive a bookmark each Sunday as we ask Jesus to show us how to live when shadows deepen. May God bless our Lenten worship.

The City of Newton informed us this week that our church can no longer recycle because of their new policies. At this time, we will not be recycling but will try looking into other options. Thank you! ~Property Committee

Scholarship Fund update. On behalf of the college students and their families, the Scholarship Committee says “*Thank you*” to those who contributed to the Scholarship Fund during the recent Sunday morning offering. Young adults at FMC continue to pursue higher education at a Mennonite Christian school. For the 2020 Spring semester, \$3,500 was paid out for seven (7) scholarships at three (3) schools. The young adults are blessed by a congregation who believes in and supports them. The students and their families plus the Scholarship Committee appreciate the past and current generosity of the congregation.

Youth Group Verenike Supper—The youth group could use some empty plastic containers/lids for our meal leftovers. Please bring them to the church kitchen before Tuesday, March 10. Thanks!

An earring was found in the Court Area last Sunday. If you are missing one, contact the Church Office.

Next Saturday, March 7, 8:30-11:45 AM: Plan to attend the Prayer Retreat that will provide for time together and apart, focusing on what God has next for our congregation. The sign-up sheet is on the board next to the Church Office.