

Love by Listening

Prelude

Deep River arr. John Leavitt
Jyl Ewy, piano

Welcome

Casson Schmidt, worship leader

Words for the children

Nick Sharp

Hymn

The Lorica
Ben's Band

Prayers for the offering and prayers of the church

Laura Sharp

Scripture reading

1 Samuel 3:1-10
Casson Schmidt

Sermon

How Shall We Sing?
Tammy Duvanel Unruh

Sharing

Thoughts about *Lift Every Voice and Sing* hymn
Sammie Simmons

Sending song

Lift Every Voice and Sing H 579
Greg Bontrager

Sending

Casson Schmidt, worship leader

Postlude

Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen-All Day, All Night-
Traditional Spirituals arr. by Mark Hayes
Jyl Ewy, piano

Upcoming Worship Services

February 14—Voices Together dedication, Pastor Kurt Horst preaching

February 17—Ash Wednesday

February 21—First Sunday of Lent, Pastor Susan Jantzen preaching

Happy Birthday!

Oneta Unruh—February 7

David Shelly—February 8

Michelle Claassen—February 10

Sam Menninga—February 10

**We will be live-streaming our worship beginning at 10:30 AM. You may view it on our webpage (firstmennonitenewton.org), on our Facebook page, YouTube, or at our Vimeo site. Recordings of the service will be available afterwards as well. Thank you to all those who helped to make the new camera system possible. Today, Joey Menninga, Ryan Koehn and Alex Goering are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Jyl Ewy, Ben's Band, Greg Bontrager. Thank you to Michelle Claassen for the visual art.*

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

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

Phone: 316-283-0273

E-mail: office@firstmennonitenewton.org

Website: www.firstmennonitenewton.org

Pastoral Team

Kurt Horst,

Interim Lead Pastor

620-217-0517

kurth@firstmennonitenewton.org

Susan Jantzen,

Interim Pastor of Worship and Visitation

620-877-7923

susanj@firstmennonitenewton.org

Tammy Duvanel Unruh,

Interim Youth Ministry Coordinator

316-207-3472

Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr

316-283-0273



First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS
February 7, 2021

Transitional Information: Announcements—The Search Committee continues to follow the search for settled pastors journey by reviewing Ministerial Leadership Forms as they are sent to us by Western District Conference. As MLI's are available that the Search Committee feels would be a candidate we would like to talk with, references are checked and interviews are scheduled. It is exciting to be working in this phase of our journey as we are moving closer and closer to finding our settled pastoral staff. Please continue praying for God's discernment and leading during this phase of our search to find pastoral staff to be a part of FMC and our future.

The Adult Bible Study: The full armor of God: Standing firm in uncertain times (Ephesians 6:10-18), continues this Wednesday at 7:00 PM via ZOOM. The topic this week is Peace (*Having our feet fitted with the gospel of peace*). If you would like to be part of this but have lost the ZOOM link please request a reminder from Tracy (office@firstmennonitenewton.org).

The Anabaptist World magazine order forms are due on Monday, February 22. If you want to renew your subscription or receive a new subscription, the group cost is \$39. Extra order forms are on the table in the Gathering Area.

In the church Gathering Area, you will find a log cabin which was made for Tonessa Driskill by her husband. When Tonessa passed away, the Life Sharing Sunday School class, volunteered to clean up her house and storage unit. The family kept what they wanted as mementos of Tonessa. The family then gave the class the freedom to keep or dispose of whatever remained. The class found this log cabin among her things. It needed a little refurbishing which was completed by Doug Graham. The log cabin will be donated to the MCC sale this year. Please do not touch since there are a number of delicate pieces to the cabin.

Office hours—Our church office hours will be different. Staff will mostly be working remotely from home. Pastors Kurt, Susan and Tammy will be available by email or by their cell number. Tracy will be in the Church Office on Monday mornings and on Thursday afternoon, and the other days will be working from home. She is always available by email. Tracy will check phone messages left on the church phone each Monday and Thursday. Please feel free to get in contact with one of us if you need anything. We will practice this way until January and then we will reevaluate again.

Kurt: kurth@firstmennonitenewton.org or 620-217-0517

Susan: susanj@firstmennonitenewton.org or 620-877-7923

Tammy: tammyduvanelunruh@gmail.com or 316-207-3472

Tracy: office@firstmennonitenewton.org or 316-288-6168

Pastor Kurt is often in the office Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you want to stop in you are encouraged to call ahead.

Church Library Books—The restrictions of Covid19 slowed the process of getting new books on our church library shelves. However, there are now more than 50 new adult fiction, nonfiction, and children's book available in our library. The new fiction books are on the shelves labeled "newer books." The nonfiction books are on the cart, and the children's books are displayed above the children's shelves. A list of the books will be included in the March newsletter, but are welcome to check out books at any time.

ASH WEDNESDAY: Wednesday evening, February 17, AT 7:00 P.M., Pastor Kurt will lead an Ash Wednesday service via ZOOM. If you are able you are encouraged to fast from breakfast until the 7:00 PM service. The service will include a variety of confessional readings, each followed by taking a bit of nourishment. There will be time preceding the service for conversation and fellowship on ZOOM beginning at 6:30 p.m. Watch your email and the bulletin for more information.

Community Announcements

MCC Comforter Blitz: At Home The annual MCC Comforter Blitz is happening virtually this year from now through March! The Kansas Friends of MCC committee is challenging congregations and individuals to complete 300 comforters for MCC by the end of March! Read all the details and information on getting comforter making supplies from MCC at mcc.org/blitz-at-home. Share pictures of your work on the MCC Comforter Blitz Facebook page. Contact katemast@mcc.org or 316-804-8432 with questions.

Save the date—at this time, July 2 and 3 are the dates that are set for this year's MCC Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. More information will be coming in the following weeks.

Registration is open for the Spring Scrapbook and Crafts Retreats at Camp Mennoscah on March 5-7 and March 19-21! Once the retreats are full, sign up on the waitlist. Register at campmennoscah.org!

MCC Webinars on Service Opportunities: Are you ready to step out and into service? To spend a year serving abroad or the summer serving your church or a local community organization? Check out the webinars happening this winter that will introduce these MCC service opportunities to you! Learn more at mcc.org/mcc-me-webinar-series-service-opportunities.

MC USA's annual Lent at Home guide is now available for download at: www.mennoniteusa.org/resource-portal/resource/lent-at-home/.

There are volunteer opportunities for you! Camp Mennoscah continually has year-round work to support the maintenance and upkeep of the campus and facilities. We can accommodate every group size, skill set and length of project you would like to tackle. Check out these ways to **Get Involved!** Email office@campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 to volunteer.

Announcements

Everence will host a *Social Security and retirement income planning* webinar, on Tuesday, February 16, 6:30 PM. Attendees will learn about Social Security strategies, risks that can impact retirement savings and strategies to help income last throughout retirement. This online workshop is free. Register soon by contacting our office at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or central.kansas@everence.com.

You are invited to join the virtual MCC Central States annual meeting on Saturday, February 27, 9:00 AM. The meeting will include a reflection on MCC in pandemic times, details about what COVID-19 has meant for MCC thrift shops and a look at our financial statements. To join the meeting please email centralstates@mcc.org and then Zoom meeting information will be sent directly to you.

Use your skills or try something new! Join the summer staff of MCC's Sharing With Appalachia People (SWAP) program to support home repair projects in Kimball, West Virginia or Harlan, Kentucky. Positions for Job Site Coordinators and Meals Coordinators are now open. Applicants should be at least 19 years old, but the roles are not limited to young adults. For more information and to apply, visit mcc.org/swap-summer-staff or contact the MCC Appalachia SWAP office at (606) 633-4008 or AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org.

FOR SALE: The Kansas MCC Sale has two Steel Shipping Containers for sale. These make excellent storage buildings that can be moved to your farm or property. They are rodent and moisture proof. They are ALL steel construction with a heavy oak floor capable of handling a fork lift. Size is: 40 feet long by 8 ft wide by 8 1/2 ft tall. Donation of \$2,500 requested which is below current value. They come with heavy timbers to set on. FREE Delivery close to Inman; additional mileage charged outside Inman area. ONLY 2 AVAILABLE. Call Jerry Toews at 620-367-8257.

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

As levels of Covid-19 infections have begun to trend downward in Harvey County decisions about in-person worship at First Mennonite are being reviewed. The goal is to be confident that, once we return to limited in-person worship, we will not need to return again to live-streaming only. With cautious optimism these trends will be reviewed again in two weeks with the hope that we might begin limited in-person worship sometime in the season of lent (with proper masks, social distancing, and continued live streaming, of course). *Let's continue to be patient, flexible, and extend grace to all.*

Offerings can be sent to the church at P.O. Box 291, 429 E. First Street, Newton, KS 67114. There is also an offering plate in the Gathering Area that will be checked daily if you want to drop your gifts off at church. Please mark the designation of your offering. If left unmarked, it will go to Local Mission. For electronic giving, go to the church website firstmennonitenewton.org or contact the church office.

The offering today is for Mennonite Mission Network and for February 14, it will be for Local Mission. Local Mission offering for January 17, 24 and 31 was \$8,757 and online giving for the month of January was \$5,571.

If you have updates for the 2021 Yearbook, please turn them in to the church office by Monday, February 8.

FYI—It is now permissible to use your own reusable bags at Dillon's grocery store.

The Picture Directories are here—If you had your picture taken for the directory or would like a directory, please contact the church office to pick one up.

Our time for the children each Sunday in February will focus on stories of African American people. As we hear these stories, our prayer is that we grow in capacity to love our neighbor by listening and learning.

Next Sunday, February 14, we will have a Hymnal Dedication for our new hymnal, *Voices Together*. We will join members of the FMC Worship Commission to speak a Prayer of Dedication over the hymnals. In the coming months when we can sing together, we will have a Hymnal Celebration for the new hymnal. We invite you to join us for both of these important milestones!

First Mennonite members who have been participating in the "Newton Community for Racial Justice" meetings would like our congregation to be aware of the following antiracism engagement opportunity. For the last several years members of the Newton community have been advocating for the gym at Santa Fe 5/6 Center, currently named "Historic Lindley Hall," to be renamed. The gym is named for former basketball coach and principal, Frank Lindley, who refused to allow non-white students to play on his basketball teams. The following is a link to a current petition: bit.ly/2Y918pu. Additional information can be found in the following online article from the Harvey County Historical Museum: <https://hchm.org/tag/frank-lindley/>.