

# *Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and Beyond*

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## **Gathering**

### **Meditation music**

*I Surrender All* by Winfield Weeden  
Donna Stucky, pianist

### **Welcome and call to worship**

Wendy Funk Schrag, worship leader

## **Listening**

### **Words for the children**

Andrea Enns Regier

### **Worship song**

*Mountain of God* VT 11  
Daryl Unruh, leader

### **Prayer for the offering—Local Missions**

Wendy Funk Schrag

### **Scripture reading**

Acts 1:6-8 and Acts 26:19-20

### **Sermon**

*Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and Beyond*  
Pastor Kurt Horst

### **Prayers for the church**

Sam Claassen

### **Recognition of graduates**

## **Sending**

### **Sending song**

*Let Us Build a House* VT 36  
Verses 1, 2, 4, and 5

### **Announcements and benediction**

Wendy Funk Schrag, worship leader

### **Postlude**

*Italian Hymn*  
adapted from Felice de Giardini; arr by Lani Smith  
Donna Stucky, organist

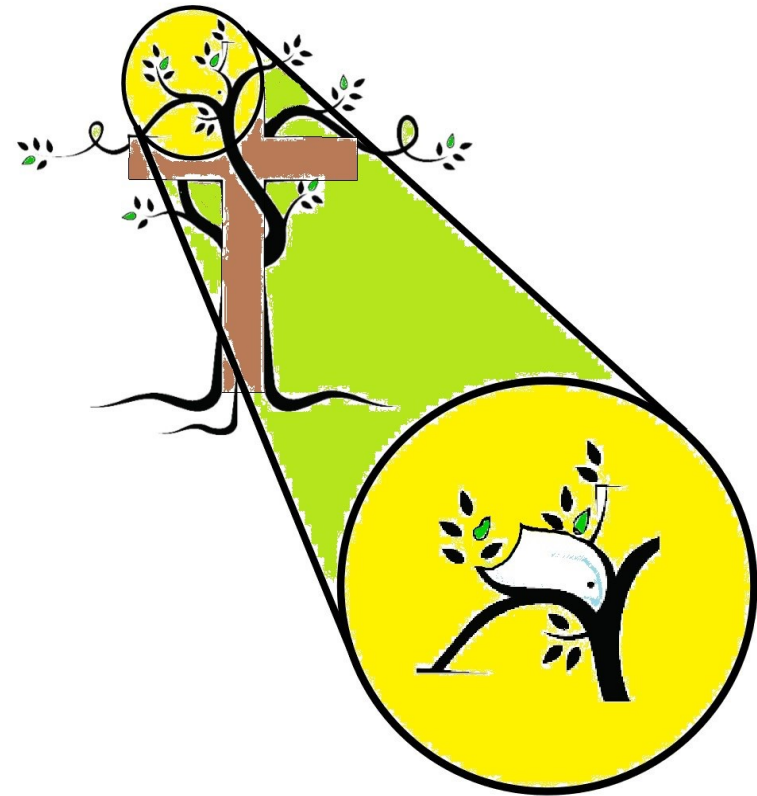
## Upcoming Worship Services

**May 23**—Pentecost Sunday with communion.

### Happy Birthday!

Jared Ratzlaff—May 16  
John Wiebe—May 16  
Tanner Pauls—May 18  
Deb Ratzlaff—May 19  
Greg Bontrager—May 21  
Alice Huxman—May 21  
Gracen Hiebert—May 22  
Morgan Murphy—May 22  
Mitchell Murphy—May 22

*We will be live-streaming our worship beginning at 10:30 AM. You may view it on our webpage ([firstmennonitenewton.org](http://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, Ryan Koehn, Sarah Koehn and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Donna Stucky, Daryl Unruh, leader. Thank you to Connie 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](mailto:office@firstmennonitenewton.org)

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

#### Pastoral Team

Kurt Horst,  
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[kurth@firstmennonitenewton.org](mailto:kurth@firstmennonitenewton.org)

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#### Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr  
316-283-0273



**First Mennonite Church  
Newton, KS  
May 16, 2021**

**Transitional Information:** It is now official! We have a new pastor coming at the end of summer to begin a three year term with us. Laura Goerzen endured a weekend of many meetings and introductions, a children's story, and a sermon and accepted our 95% approval vote for a pastorship with us. The Search Committee and Church Board were very pleased to introduce her to the church and we now have one of our two settled pastor positions chosen. A job description will be finalized with Pastor Laura soon and will be shared with the congregation when it is complete.

Some other transition news we would like to share concerning our interim pastoral staff is Pastor Kurt will complete his service with us on June 6, but will return to share a sermon with us on June 13, July 4, and July 11, but will not be available for other pastoral services. We are planning on a releasing service for him on July 11. We have been blessed to have him serve with us as an interim pastor for the past nine months.

We are pleased to say that Pastor Susan will continue on our interim path with us for a while longer and will be increasing her hours during the summer months.

We still have one more pastoral position to fill so the Search Committee will continue reviewing Ministerial Leadership Forms as they are sent to us and are still open to any names suggested for contact for this position. Please continue to be in prayer for our search, our new journey with Pastor Laura, and give thanks for the interim pastors that have walked with us these past months. FMC has much to be thankful for during our transition times!

**Volunteers needed for Summer Enrichment Activities** for kids (and families) (SEAK). First Mennonite Church is partnering with Newton Area Peace Center, New Creation Mennonite Church and Shalom Mennonite Church to provide activities and help serve lunch to neighborhood children this summer. The program will be held Monday—Thursday, June 7-July 29. We will be planning and supervising the activities and helping serve on Wednesdays. We will need about three volunteers each Wednesday from 11:15 AM to 12:30 PM. In past years, First Mennonite provided water-based activities, so if you don't mind visiting and playing with kids with possibility of getting soaked once in a while please contact Miriam Goertzen-Regier or anyone on Outreach Commission.

**Adult Sunday School curriculum available!** New *Current* summer curriculum, "Seeking Justice Together," is available for all adult Sunday school classes. Downloadable curriculum includes guide with a full quarter of flexible session plans that can be used any time of year. For more details, visit <https://shinecurriculum.com/product/current-2021-adult/>. To obtain access for your class, contact the church office.

**Copies of the regular** adult Sunday School materials, *Salt and Light*, are also available and can be picked up in the Gathering Area.

## SR. HIGH YOUTH



- Sunday School —Sunday, May 16, 9:00 AM —Zoom—check email.
- Youth Group—Wednesday, May 19.

### Community Announcements

**Get your MCC Relief Sale** gear online at: [wearatomic.com/product-category/mcc/](http://wearatomic.com/product-category/mcc/). The proceeds from the sale of these products go to support MCC.

**Camp Mennoscah is seeking** to fill a part-time custodian/housekeeper position. Hours average 10 per week and are flexible, dependent upon the camp schedule. For more information, contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org).

**Smorgasborg of volunteer opportunities** for you! Camp Mennoscah has multiple opportunities to support the maintenance and upkeep of the campgrounds. Get involved and be part of the fun. Email [office@campmennoscah.org](mailto:office@campmennoscah.org) or call 620-297-3290 to volunteer.

**New Hope Shelter Volunteer Training Day**—Tuesday, May 18, 7:00-8:30 PM. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Shonda Suddeth, Shelter Coordinator at [shonda@newhope-shelter.org](mailto:shonda@newhope-shelter.org) by Monday, May 17.

**Everence will host the following** free, online webinars during the month of May, all webinars will start at 6:30 PM. **Navigating education savings: 529 plans**-Tuesday, May 18; **Social Security and retirement income planning**-Tuesday, May 25. To register, or learn more about each webinar event, please visit our webpage at [everence.com/kansas](http://everence.com/kansas).

**There are openings for youth** at Camp Mennoscah's summer youth camps! Several of the camp weeks still have space for more campers. Register at: [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org) and find further information in the camp blog!

**Nurses needed for summer youth camps!** Camp Mennoscah needs nurses for June 17-19 (First Camp), June 20-26 (Junior I) and July 25-30 (Senior High). Nurses receive a stipend or a discount up to full camp fees for their camper (camper does not have to attend the same camp week). Contact us at 620-297-3290 or [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) for more information.

**Camp Mennoscah is looking for additional staff** to help with extra tasks necessary this summer. The person should be at least 18 years old and will be paid the summer staff stipend. A multiple-week/full summer commitment is preferred, but those with

partial summer availability are invited to apply. Complete the Summer Staff application at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org).

**Mennonite Mission Network, Elkhart, IN** is seeking to fill two senior level positions: **Senior Executive of Ventures**—Help create, foster, and deliver collaborative programs and services to our constituents and partners. **Senior Executive of Operations**—Oversee administrative and operational functions of the organization. Detailed position descriptions are found at [www.mennonitemission.net/about/Employment](http://www.mennonitemission.net/about/Employment). Letters of interest and resumes should be emailed to [StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net](mailto:StaffRecruitment@MennoniteMission.net).

**For a variety of reasons**, regularly attending Sunday morning church services is just not feasible for many people. Beryl Jantzi, in his blog, *Revisoning Church: Sabbath Diaspora and Christian Synagogues*, addresses this issue by offering several ways that churches can accommodate a non-traditional Sabbath. [www.mennoniteusa.org/diaspora-synagogues](http://www.mennoniteusa.org/diaspora-synagogues).

**The WDC Resource Library is now open to the public**—Library capacity will be **limited to one household in the library at a time**. The self-checkout station and library catalog computer will remain off during this phase of reopening. Please see library staff or WDC staff for assistance in looking up items (or browse the catalog on your smartphone). Please plan to make your visit to the library quick and not linger (couches/chairs will be turned around for the time being). Please stop at the WDC front lobby to check whether there is anyone in the library. Questions? Contact the library at [crlib@mennowdc.org](mailto:crlib@mennowdc.org). As in the rest of the WDC offices, **masks are required** while you are in the library. The library continues to offer service to any individual or congregation in WDC via the United States Postal Service—check out the online catalog.

**MCC Central States COVID-19 update:** We look forward to re-opening the MCC office in North Newton on July 6. Please keep us in your prayers as we consider our protocols, processes and capacity. Material resources donations continue to be accepted in the 24-hour donation room. Financial donations can be made at [mcc.org](http://mcc.org), mailed to the office (MCC Central States PO BOX 235 North Newton, KS 67117) or dropped off by appointment. Please call the MCC office at 316-283-2720 with any questions. Thank you for continuing to support the work of Mennonite Central Committee.

**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

## Announcements

**It's great to be able to join in limited in-person worship.** As we return to worship remember:

- Be humble, patient, careful, and gracious toward all who come and toward all who don't yet feel safe and comfortable gathering in person.
- Wear masks, keep social distance, and save person-to-person conversations for outdoors.
- Exit from the back and move outside as directed by the ushers.

**The offering for May 23** is for Local Missions. 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](http://firstmennonitenewton.org) or contact the church office.

**First Mennonite Church by the numbers**—attendance for May 9—116.

**Thank you to all who volunteered** for the adopt-a-month program. We have enough volunteers who will connect with those who are unable to attend.

~Larry Entz for Caregiving and Membership Commission.

**Pastor Susan will be on vacation this week**, May 17-23. Please contact Pastor Kurt if you are needing anything related to church.

**Volunteers needed to teach children's Sunday school!** We are looking for teachers and helpers from June through August to teach children's Sunday School via Zoom. Sessions take place on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 9:30 AM. Curriculum is provided. Must be trained in Safe Sanctuaries policies. For more details, please contact Stephanie Weaver at [stephweaver@live.com](mailto:stephweaver@live.com).

**We will be celebrating communion** on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. Please consider your relationships with God and with brothers and sisters. First Mennonite's practice is to offer communion on Epiphany Sunday in January, Maundy Thursday of Holy Week, Pentecost Sunday and World Communion Day in October.

**A support group** for survivors of sexual abuse will meet on May 18, under the guidance of a professional counselor. If you have experienced sexual abuse and think you might benefit from meeting with others and a professional please contact Laura Sharp, a member of the Caregiving and Membership Commission, at [laura.sharp.msw@gmail.com](mailto:laura.sharp.msw@gmail.com) for more information about the meeting.