

Lead Me, Guide Me, Along the Way

July 18, 2021

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Gathering

Welcome

Sean Claassen, worship leader

Meditation music

I Worship You, Almighty God Sondra Corbett-Wood
Donna Stucky, pianist

Call to worship

Sean Claassen

Listening

Words for the children

Erin Graber

Worship song

God Speaks to Us in Bird and Song VT 539
Daryl Unruh, leader

Prayer for the offering—Local Missions

Sean Claassen

Scripture reading

Psalm 25:1-10
Sean Claassen

Sermon

Lead Me, Guide Me, Along the Way
Clarence Rempel

Prayer Hymn

Lead Me, Guide Me VT 601

Prayers for the church

Pastor Susan Jantzen

Sending

Sending song

The Lord Lift You Up VT 832

Announcements and benediction

Sean Claassen

Postlude

My Heart Rejoices by David Paxton
Donna Stucky, organist

All rows remain seated during postlude.

Thank you.

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Lead Me, Guide Me, Along the Way
A. Prayer for God's Guarding vs. 1-3
B. Prayer for God's Guiding vs. 4-5, 8-10
C. Prayer for God's Gracing vs. 6-7

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, Sarah Koehn, Brian Kennell, and Alex Goering are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Donna Stucky and Daryl Unruh. Thank you to Cindy Unruh for the visual art. Property Committee: Alan Entz.

Upcoming Worship Services

July 25—Ken Regier, preaching

August 1—YOUTH SUNDAY

Happy Birthday!

Michael Garcia—July 18

Nancy Entz—July 21

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

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

Phone: 316-283-0273

E-mail: office@firstmennonitenevton.org

Website: www.firstmennonitenevton.org

Pastoral Team

Susan Jantzen,

Interim Pastor of Worship and Visitation
620-877-7923

susanj@firstmennonitenevton.org

Tammy Duvanel Unruh,

Interim Youth Ministry Coordinator
316-207-3472

Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr

316-283-0273



**First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS
July 18, 2021**

Transitional Information: FMC SEARCH COMMITTEE IS ACTIVE AGAIN! The Search Committee has had **three** Ministerial Leadership Information (MLI) forms sent to them which is like “Christmas in July” as the email to the Search Committee about the MLI’s was titled. This is very exciting news for FMC. It means three possible candidates for our remaining settled pastor positions have asked to have their application sent to us. The Search Committee is meeting to review the MLI’s and decide if the next steps in the process are warranted for any or all of these candidates. FMC is now just weeks away from the installation, August 29, of our new pastor, Laura Goerzen, which is also an exciting event in our church life. All prayers for the beginning of Pastor Laura’s time with us and our renewed search for our second pastor are felt and appreciated!

The Caregiving and Membership Commission is offering to family members of persons, who passed away from March 2020 to the present, the opportunity to place a Memorial Display in the display cases in the church. The first of these Memorial Displays will be available for your viewing Sunday, July 25. Each display will be open for one month. Let us together celebrate the lives of these persons.

Have you felt God calling you to enter pastoral ministry but need financial support for attending a seminary? The good news is that our church will cover the cost of tuition and housing for any member attending an Anabaptist seminary. The Anabaptist Seminary Fund which has been approved by the church board has now been funded with a beginning \$9,000 gift. Contact Janice Good or Don Schmidt for further details.

The Allies group, which supports people with various sexual identities and their families and friends, will be meeting at FMC on Sunday, July 25, 4:00 PM, (**note date change from prior announcement**) in room 224 for pizza and to do the orientation module of the Safe Zone Project which can be done in person as a group or as an individual online. For more information about the meeting or the Safe Zone Project (<https://thesafezoneproject.com/>), contact Wendy Funk Schrag at pwschrag@cox.net.

As we prepare for the upcoming remodel, we are planning two work days. July 24, will be spent cleaning out the classrooms to be remodeled and the classrooms in the basement that will be affected by the remodel. August 7, we will be removing ceiling from basement classrooms to access plumbing needs for the remodel. In order to make this successful, we will need your help. Please save the dates! We are very excited about the final results and what this will mean for the children of First Mennonite. For a short time, things will be in disarray and we ask for your understanding and patience during this process. We will keep you updated as we work through the details.

~The Property Committee

All are Invited to Attend Upcoming Safe Sanctuaries Training! Everyone who currently works or hopes to work with children in any capacity at church is **REQUIRED** to participate in our Safe Sanctuaries training in August. (This includes Sunday school teachers and helpers, nursery attendants, youth group leaders, children’s feature presenters, etc.). The purpose of the training is to ensure that our faith community remains a safe place for children and vulnerable adults. Though the training is required for those who work with children, everyone is encouraged to sign up. The training will be in two parts: a 38-minute video produced by Dove’s Nest and a follow-up presentation by Executive Director, Anna Groff, facilitated via zoom. There are two options for viewing the video: 1) On August 8, you can receive a link via email to the video to watch at your convenience by August 15, OR 2) On August 15, you can come to the church from 9:00-10:00 AM to watch the video. Then, on August 22, you are required to participate in the zoom discussion with Anna Groff, either from home or at church, from 9:00-10:00 AM. Please contact Sara Rickard at sararickard@gmail.com with any questions and to indicate whether you plan to participate virtually or in person.

Community Announcements

Join us in saying thanks to WDC Administrative Assistant Nancy Funk! If you would like to share an expression of appreciation for Nancy in anticipation of her retirement at the end of August, you are invited to stop by to visit with Nancy at the WDC office (2517 North Main Street, N. Newton, KS) over the next several weeks, or to send a note to her at WDC, PO Box 306, North Newton, KS 67117, or wdc@mennowdc.org.

The 2021 issue of *Mennonite Life*, Bethel College’s annual online journal, is now live at ml.bethelks.edu, with articles and reviews by Brad Born, Rachel Epp Buller, Peter Goerzen, Raylene Hinz-Penner, Mark Jantzen, Jim Juhnke, Nate Kroeker, Alec Loganbill, Jacob Miller, Bethany Powls, Rich Preheim, Darrin Snyder-Belousek, Tara Schwartz, Anne Marie Stoner-Eby and Melanie Zuercher.

Bluestem Communities will host its annual community dementia forum, Innovations in Living with Dementia, as an online webinar on Wednesday, July 21, 6:30 PM. The presentation is entitled, “I Already Told You...Don’t You Remember?: Understanding Memory Loss, Dementia and Dementia Communication,” and is presented by national-known dementia educator Erin Bonitto. The webinar is free, and one credit of CEUs approved by the State of Kansas is available as an option for \$15. Whether you’re a professional caregiver or someone caring for a loved one living with dementia, this learning session will help participants focus on what the person with Alzheimer’s Disease or other dementia needs you to know. Register at bluestemks.org/dementiaforum. Registration is required. Spaces are limited.

Want to be an integral part of a young adult's life? Become a unit leader for Service Adventure, a gap-year program for ages 17-20 from Mennonite Mission Network. Unit leaders, who are at least 24 years of age, serve as mentors to the young adults in the Service Adventure household. Leaders are needed in Johnstown, PA. Learn more by contacting SusanN@MennoniteMission.net.

The Prairie Bronze Handbell Ensemble will be in concert Sunday, August 1, 3:00 PM, at the First Presbyterian Church, 900 Columbus, Newton.

Everence to hold *Gifts that Give Back* webinar— Tuesday, August 3, 6:30 PM. Many make charitable gifts to support their favorite causes and organizations. Some choose to extend their charitable giving further by designating dollars for charity in their end-of-life plans. But did you know there is another type of gift plan that generates income for the donor and then sends a gift to charity at a later date? Come to this workshop to learn more about “Gifts that give back” and whether it is a strategy for you! This webinar will be hosted by Mitch Stutzman, Everence Stewardship Consultant. This webinar is free. Please register by contacting our office at 877-467-7294, 316-283-3800 or central.kansas@everence.com.

August 28 is the next Work Day at Camp Mennoscah! We'll remind you again, but save the date. You make camp great!

Shaking up the WDC Assembly worship on Saturday evening, July 31! Virtual participants, grab your supper at home, and onsite participants, get your supper from a food truck (at Faith Mennonite Church, Newton, KS), then join us for a time of worship and communion around the supper table. We hope you'll join us for this and other creative worship times, seminars/webinars, and more July 30-August 1, as part of the WDC Annual Assembly. For more Assembly information, go to: menowdc.org/2021-wdc-annual-assembly/.

Climate Intercessors and Pray and Fast for the Climate are praying in anticipation of the Conference of the Parties 26 in Glasgow, Scotland, November 1 to 12, 2021. Mennonite Creation Care Network (MCCN) encourages congregations to join this prayer effort. (climateintercessors.org, prayandfastfortheclimate.org.uk)

Announcements

The offering for July 25 will be 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 or contact the church office.

First Mennonite Church by the numbers—attendance for July 11—120.

Offering for Local Missions from July 4 and 11 was \$8,954 and online giving was \$1,928.

The southeast parking lot by the playground will be blocked off today and August 15 (the 3rd Sundays of the month). The K-5th grade children's Sunday school class will be meeting outside in this space for those Sundays. Please find other places to park on those Sunday mornings.

Congratulations to Stephanie (Brown) Loganbill and Alec Loganbill, who renewed their vows here at FMC on Saturday July 17. May God grant them many years together.

MASKS DURING WORSHIP: Questions have been asked about why we continue to require masks to be worn during our worship service and the limit of congregational singing to the last song when all restrictions for vaccinated people have been eliminated in most public places. Please be aware that our requirement for masks and limited congregational singing are there to protect our unvaccinated attendees most of which are children under the age of 12 who do not yet have the choice of being vaccinated. We recognize that it has been a return to life pre-Covid 19 for vaccinated people for the most part but not for everyone. We ask for your continued grace and patience while we wait a few more weeks for all to have an opportunity to choose to be vaccinated draws closer. Thank you, FMC, for helping us a while longer!

The Church Office will be closed this week, Monday-Wednesday, July 19-21, so that carpet can be installed in the office. Pastor Susan and Tracy Kerr will be working from home and can be reached by email or their cell phones.

FMC Youth Group is at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp for work and for spiritual reflection, work and fun. Following the theme, God's Will, Our Work, their scriptures are as follows: Thursday: Mark 4:26-29; Friday: Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Saturday: Mark 9:2-12; Sunday: Mark 14:32-42; Monday: Job 12:7-12; Tuesday: Revelation 6:9-11.