

Stories of Life and Faith

September 12, 2021

Gathering

Welcome

Dave Wiebe, worship leader

Meditation music

We're marching to Zion arr. Joyce Jones
Amanda Rempel, organist

Call to worship

Dave Wiebe, worship leader

Listening

Words for the children

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Worship song

Mountain of God VT 11
Susan Jantzen and Brent Voran

Prayer for the offering—Local Missions

Dave Wiebe, worship leader

Scripture reading

Jeremiah 29:4-7
Dave Wiebe, worship leader

Conversational Sermon

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Prayers of the church

Laura Sharp

Sending

Sending song

My Life Flows On VT 605
Susan Jantzen and Brent Voran

Announcements and benediction

Dave Wiebe, worship leader

Postlude

Little Prelude and Fugue in B flat J. S. Bach
Amanda Rempel, organist

All rows remain seated during postlude.

Thank you.

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. Today, Ryan Koehn, Tim Regier, and Alex Goering are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Amanda Rempel, Susan Jantzen, Brent Voran. Thank you to Connie Claassen for the visual art. Property Committee: Mason Unruh.

Upcoming Worship Services

Sept ember 19—Randy Detweiler, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary, preaching.

September 26—Blessing of *Voices Together* Celebration.

October 3—World Communion Sunday.

Happy Birthday!

Jan Claassen—September 12

Randy Doty—September 12

Bev Regier—September 13

Dennis Good—September 15

Stefanie Knopp—September 16

Dale Schrag—September 16

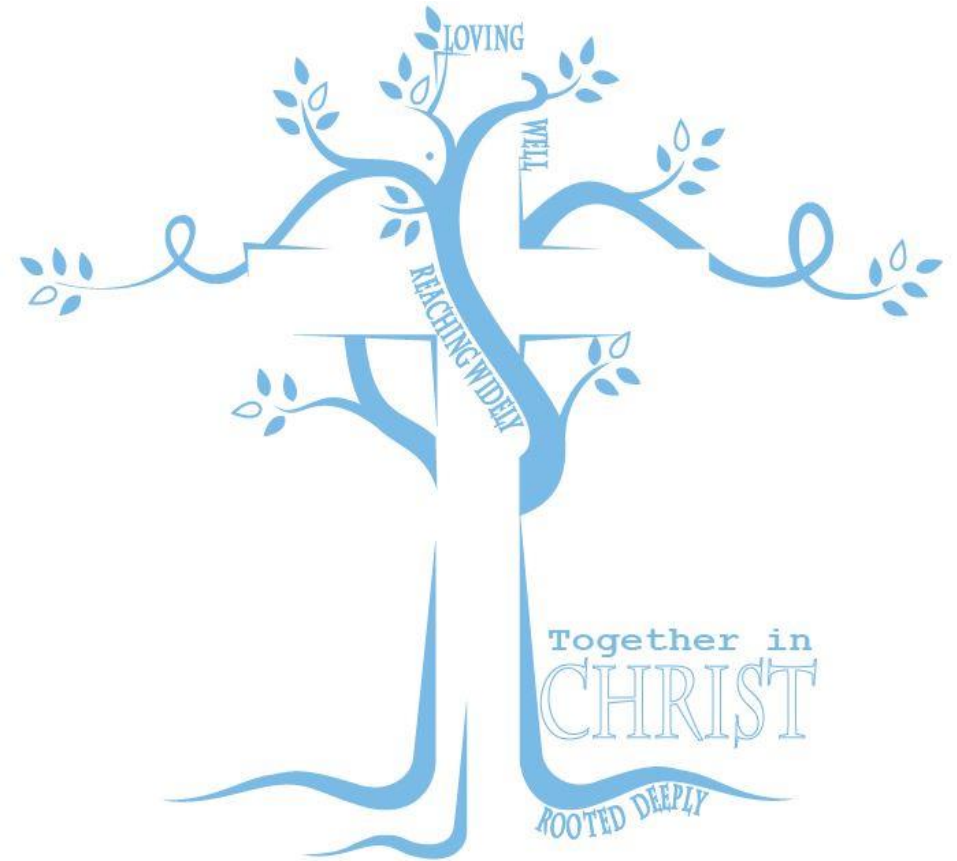
Jan Groves—September 17

Doug Pauls—September 17

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
Newton, KS
September 12, 2021**

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

Laura Goerzen, Pastor—620-386-0518; laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org

Susan Jantzen, Interim Pastor—620-877-7923; susanj@firstmennonitenewton.org

Tammy Duvanel Unruh, Interim Youth Ministry—316-207-3472

Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr—316-283-0273; office@firstmennonitenewton.org



Transitional Information: Pastor Laura has started! She is here, moved into her office, and beginning the process of taking on her role as one of our new settled pastors. The interview process has begun for the Search Committee with two possible candidates and references have been checked. The Search Committee is working well as a team and moving along on the journey for another settled pastor. Everything is moving forward for an exciting and busy Fall in the life of FMC! Please continue to pray for our Pastors, Search Committee, and the Church Board as we are still on a journey to seek and do God's will for our church family.

Safe Sanctuary's Training—anyone who still needs part two of the Safe Sanctuary's Training, come to the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, September 22, 7:00 PM. If you are not able to attend on September 22 or if you need a Zoom link for September 22, please contact Stephanie Weaver.

The time has come! Worship Commission is planning a Sunday of blessing for our new *Voices Together* hymnal on September 26! Please join us for worship that day.

An Evening of *Voices Together*—First Mennonite Worship Commission is offering An Evening of *Voices Together* Sunday, October 10, 6:30 PM, in the sanctuary. We have invited Rosi Penner Kaufman, Minister of Music and Worship at Rainbow Mennonite Church in Kansas City, to lead this hour-long exploration to help First Mennonite people to get to know the new hymnal. We will have a quartet at the front to sing for us while we follow along in the hymnal which will be placed in the pews. We will be masked and distanced. We may sing a final song before we exit the sanctuary. We heartily invite you to be with us!

You are invited to view the Memorial Displays for Helen Entz and Otis Unruh in the Gathering Area and for Mary Enz in the Library display case. The Caregiving and Membership Commission wishes to honor persons who passed away during the required limitations beginning March 2020.

If you need the link to sign up for *Realm*, our new church software, please contact the Church Office and one will be emailed to you.

Do you have trouble hearing in the sanctuary? Thanks to a generous donation, we have installed a new hearing assist system. There are eight units that can be picked up and used during the service along with earbuds. If you have hearing aids that are compatible with t-loop, we also have the capability put the sound into your hearing aids. If you would like to use a hearing assist unit this Sunday, stop by the sound booth before the service.

SR. HIGH YOUTH



- Sunday School—in person and Zoom—9:15 AM
 - Youth Group—Wednesday, September 15, 7:00 PM
- Check your email for more information on Sunday School and Youth Group.

Community Announcements

Today, September 12 – KIPCOR Film Series resumes live, with *The Prison Within*, at 2:00 PM, Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College. Individuals incarcerated in San Quentin Prison and charged with murder take a journey of redemption through participation in a restorative justice program. Talk-back to follow. **Bethel's COVID-19 protocols require physical distancing and mask-wearing indoors regardless of vaccination status.**

Learn, Pray, Join: Cost of Poverty—During September and October, Mennonite Church USA invites you to learn about poverty considering the pandemic, by engaging its new “Learn, Pray, Join” initiative—The Cost of Poverty. We will include a special focus on housing insecurity and mutual aid. More information is at: mennoniteusa.org/ministry/peacebuilding/learn-pray-join/cost-of-poverty/.

WDC and Bethel College invite you to save the date for Bethel's 5th Biennial Worship and the Arts Symposium at Bethel College—*Joining Voices Together*, November 5-8, 2021, featuring the new denominational hymnal, *Voices Together* (2020). This worship book is resonating across Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada as we reach for connection with each other and with God's work in the world. The Symposium will include convocation speakers on November 5 and 8, seminars and evening worship on November 6, and guest presenters in area congregations on November 7. Come gather around stories that shaped *Voices Together*; contemplate the visual art curated for this collection; experience historical, contemporary and intercultural worship; and develop tools for adopting new resources in your worshipping community. More information and registration available soon at bethelks.edu/worshiparts.

Camp Mennoscah is seeking a full-time Director of Development, Marketing and Communications to lead our ongoing operational and advancement needs. This position reports directly to the Board of Directors while taking directive from the Executive Director when related to operational considerations. As a member of a small, very hands-on staff, the role is expected to be highly collaborative. This professional must embrace the mission of Camp Mennoscah, have an established background in coordinating nonprofit donation strategies, possess strong written, interpersonal, leadership and relationship building skills, and work as an independent contributor with good organization and follow-through. Most of the work will commence off campus, however some in-person time at camp is required. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled and early submission is encouraged. Please send application materials (resume, cover letter, references and salary requirements) to campmennojobs@att.net.

September 26 is a Camp Mennoscah Combo! It's the Hymn Sing-Dessert Auction and Annual Meeting all in one! There are still details to be determined, but plan on some hymn singing (masked and distanced), bidding on delectable desserts, and information about Camp Mennoscah's year. We'll keep the details coming your way!

Bakers and Crafters Needed! Help support Bethel College Women's Association by donating pies for BCWA's Pie-By-The-Slice booth or any baked item or craft item for the Market in the Round at Fall Fest 2021. Peppernuts, zwieback, cinnamon rolls, and coffee cakes are popular items! Bring your pies (no refrigerated or custard pies please) to Seminar A in Schultz Student Center from 4:00 to 6:30 PM, Friday, October 1 or from 8:00 to 11:00 AM, Saturday, October 2. Baked goods and craft items can be dropped off at the Luyken Fine Arts Center Rm 140 on Friday, 1:30-4:30 PM or Saturday 7:00-8:00 AM. All proceeds go to support Bethel College.

Join MCC in prayer and support for those suffering in our world. MCC has prepositioned relief materials in Haiti for immediate use. Earlier this month an additional shipment of supplies was sent to Haiti and is expected to arrive in September. MCC continues to respond to needs around the world in Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Congo and other crisis areas. We greatly appreciate your monetary donations to keep current projects going and to help with extra expenses due to recent disasters; and we could use your help in replenishing our supplies of relief kits and hygiene kits. Questions can be directed to 316-283-2720 or centralstates@mcc.org

There are volunteer opportunities for you! Camp Mennoscah 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. Email: office@campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 to volunteer.

The annual Hispanic Ministries—IBA Burrito Benefit Sale will take place Friday, October 15. Order to go (drive thru pick up) at First Mennonite Church—429 East 1st Newton. For any inquiries contact Violeta Ajquejay Suastegui call 316-281-4342 or email at: VioletaA@MennoniteEducation.org Watch the bulletin for more details.

The Kansas MDS (Mennonite Disaster Service) Unit is sponsoring two Learning and Service trips to McAllen, Tx. The dates are October 16-23, 2021 and February 19-26, 2022. Participants will leave on Saturday morning traveling to San Antonio, Texas, staying over night, visiting San Antonio Mennonite Church on Sunday morning, then traveling to McAllen, Texas for the MDS project. Cost will be two nights lodging and meals on the two weekends while traveling. MDS is covering the remainder of the expenses. To make your reservations or for more information contact Cleo Koop at 316-282-0797 or cleohkoop@gmail.com.

Register at www.campmennoscah.org! There is only one Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat. Lodging will be in the Retreat Center and cropping/crafting will be in the Main Camp dining hall. Space heaters will be available for both areas since the repairs for the furnaces will not be complete by the beginning of November. Fees for the Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat have increased to \$150 to meet higher costs and the use of multiple facilities. For those who find the increase prohibitive, there is an option to receive up to \$25 in scholarship funds per person as part of the registration process.

Announcements

The offering for September 19 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 worship attendance—September 5—106.

The children classroom remodeling project has started! At times, access to the south doors and hallway may be limited. Please be patient and respect the signs placed for your safety. We know you will be curious as to what is happening. You may even be tempted to cross into the construction zone just to "take a quick look" or sneak by to get into the building. Please don't! Stay out of the zone. Use another entrance. We promise to give you frequent updates and maybe even some pictures so you can see the progress as it happens. Thank you! ~The Property Committee

Our guest preacher for next Sunday, September 19 will be Randy Detweiler from Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS). Randy works in the Development Office for AMBS having come from serving as a pastor. May God prepare our hearts for his message.

A GENTLE REMINDER ABOUT OUR COVID PROTOCOLS: A review of our current Covid protocols has been completed because of the increase in Covid 19 cases, Delta variant, in Harvey County. We will be continuing our mask requirement inside the building and the option of social distancing of the back half of the sanctuary pews. Please be aware the back rows are marked with blue tape on every other pew for more social distancing. Please sit in the blue tape marked pews. The front half, 10 rows, of the sanctuary will continue to be for those who are vaccinated and more comfortable with less social distancing. We would encourage those who choose to sit in the front rows of the sanctuary to be aware of the increase in Covid cases to sit in your "circle" of family members and friends that you see on a regular basis. Your cooperation, patience, and grace to help protect those who do not have the vaccine available yet is appreciated.

Healthcare Workers Need Your Support—Our local hospital workers are experiencing lots of stress related to this pandemic right now. Could you write a short note to let them know you are praying for them, you are thinking about them or that you are thankful for their critical work? Paper for this activity has been placed on a table in the Gathering Area. Kids pictures are welcomed! If you want to leave them in Carol Goering's mailbox at church she will deliver them during the month of September.