

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

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Gathering

Welcome

Chris Weaver, worship leader

Lighting of the Advent Candles—The Garcia Family

Leader: We light a candle of hope.

And we imagine:

People: God's righteousness, God's steadfast love, God's justice.

Leader: We light the candle to see God's goodness in us, among us.

People: Imagine that we are God's wonders, blessed wonders.

Meditation music

Communion Prelude on Picardy

arr. Gilbert M. Martin

Amanda Entz, organist

Call to worship

Chris Weaver, worship leader

Listening

Words for the children

Keith Knopp

Worship song

Here I am to Worship VT 227

Joan Entz, leader; Jyl Ewy, piano

Prayer for the offering—Local Mission

Chris Weaver, worship leader

Scripture

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Camryn Entz, reader

Sermon

Dare to Imagine God's Goodness

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Prayers of the church

Renee Hamm

Sending

Sending song

Longing for Light VT 715 vs 1, 2, 4 and 5

Joan Entz, leader; Jyl Ewy, piano

Announcements and benediction

Chris Weaver, worship leader

Postlude

Toccata-Prelude on Hyfrydol

arr. Edward L. Good

Amanda Entz, organist

All rows remain seated during postlude.

Thank you.

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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, Sarah Koehn, and Melody Enns are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Amanda Entz, Joan Entz, Jyl Ewy. Thank you to Cindy Unruh for the visual art. Property Committee: Rod Wedel

Upcoming Worship Services

December 5—*Dare to Imagine God's Embrace*—Judy Murphy

December 12—Candidating Sunday

December 19—*Dare to Imagine God's Face*—Pastor Laura Goerzen

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@firstmennonitenewton.org

Website: www.firstmennonitenewton.org

Pastoral Team

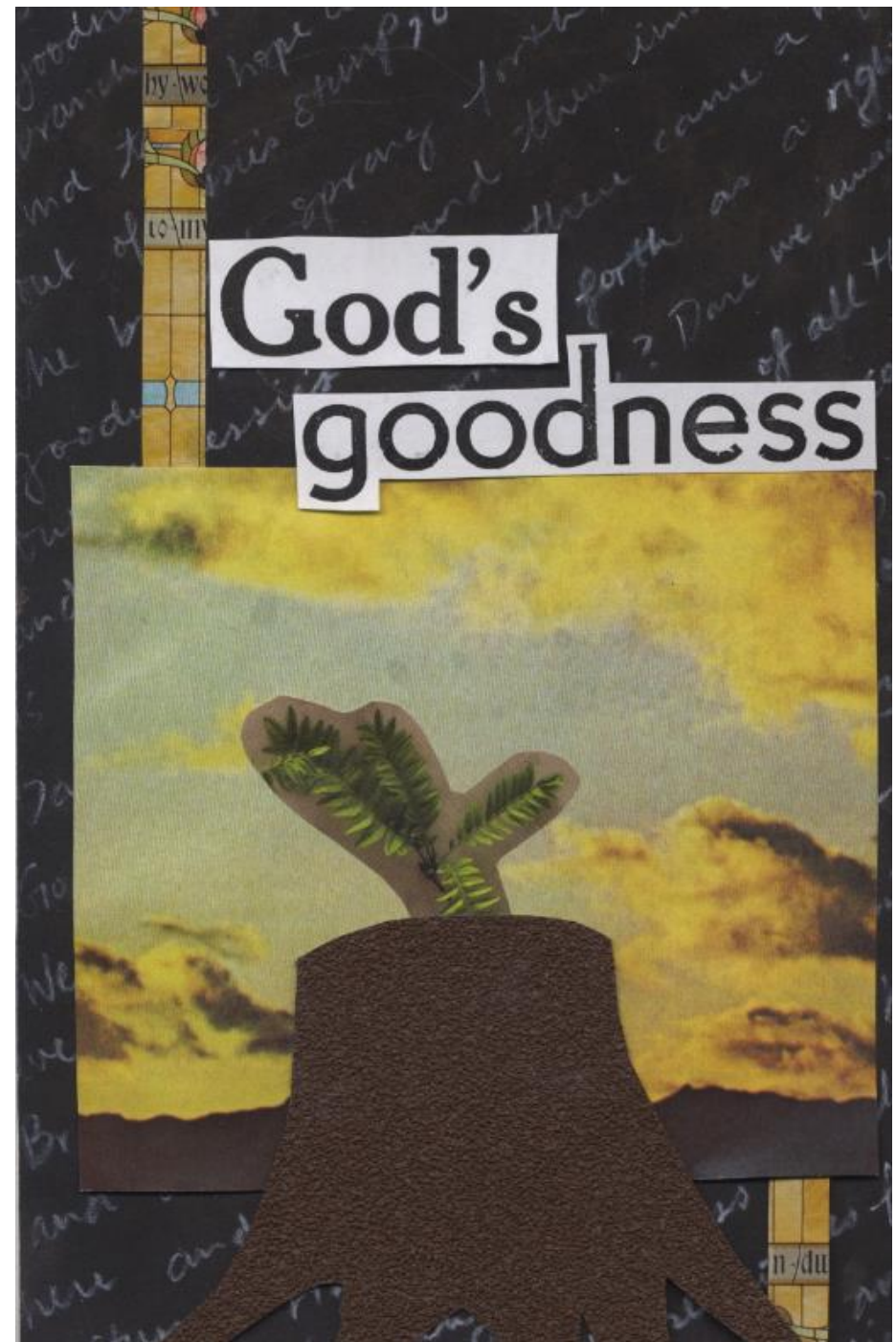
Laura Goerzen, Pastor—620-386-0518; laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org

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**First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS**

SR. HIGH YOUTH



- Sunday School--Sunday, November 28, in person and Zoom--9:15 AM.
- Youth Group on Wednesday, December 1.
Check your email for information about Sunday School and Youth Group.

will be ready to eat and comes with rice on the side. Cost is by donation. Email Pastor Graciela (pastortijerg@gmail.com) or Linda Shelly (lindajs81@gmail.com) to place your order.

Roots of Justice Training will again be offered in Newton on January 14-16, 2022. This is an excellent training on anti-racism. Early registration discount cost is \$250 until December 1. Outreach Commission is offering \$150 scholarships to help with that cost for any from FMC who would like to attend. Please speak with Chris Weaver, Miriam Goertzen-Regier, Dave Wiebe, Bev Regier, or Pastor Laura if you would like to take advantage of this opportunity.

The registration form is found here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/FAIpQLSfagGDfcJ6QDRYOMuSYUVZta0Q1416ITA0JH_sGjmNJK1LLA/viewform.

In addition, Outreach will match the funds donated for FMC scholarships with scholarships for community members including BIPOC and those without institutional backing, making it possible to enable maximum participation in our community. You also can donate for community scholarships at this link: www.flipcause.com/ecure/donate/MTM0NTcw. Together we can support racial justice in the Newton community!

Community Announcements

Check out the Advent resource for home use (written flexibly for all ages and household configurations) from MC USA. This resource follows the “Dare to Imagine” theme for Advent 2021 worship resources in Leader magazine. Download it at [Advent At Home 2021 | Mennonite Church USA \(mennoniteusa.org\)](http://AdventAtHome2021|MennoniteChurchUSA(mennoniteusa.org))

Full-time job opportunities are available in various departments at Mennonite Mission Network: Human Resources, Finance, Global Partnerships, and Training & Resources. See full job descriptions and apply at MennoniteMission.net/Employment or direct questions to StaffRecruitment@mennonitemission.net.

Giving Tuesday is November 30. There aren't any gimmicks this year to encourage you to give, just stories. Remember the camper who stayed after campfire to talk to counselors about faith and life struggles. Think of the awe-filling trips in inner tubes down the river at night and the campfires with the starry heavens above. Spend a moment with your own memories of Camp Mennoscah. Checks can be sent to Camp Mennoscah, PO Box 65, Murdock, KS 67111.

All bakers and craft makers are invited to make items for *5 Places of Christmas* on Saturday, December 4, at Goerz House on Bethel College campus. Bethel College Women's Association will again be selling baked goods, craft items, and poinsettias. Christmas candy, zwieback, peppernuts, poppyseed rolls, and cinnamon rolls are always great sellers. Please bring your items to Goerz House on Friday, December 3, from 1:30-4:30 PM or Saturday, December 4, from 7:00-9:00 AM. Thank you for your support of Bethel College!

The Annual Treble Clef Christmas Vespers concert is scheduled for December 5, 3:00 PM, at First Presbyterian Church, 900 Columbus Ave, Newton. This year the concert will include piano music by Joan Wulf, the Treble Clef Choir, the Prairie Bronze-Handbell Choir, and Hearts-4-Him. A freewill offering will be taken to benefit the Treble Clef Scholarship Fund, which awards high school seniors pursuing a college degree in music.

The McPherson Community Brass Choir under the direction of Jerry Toews will give their Christmas Brass Concert Sunday, December 12, 7:30 PM, in the Goessel HS gym. This event is sponsored by the Goessel Ministerial Alliance. Note the location change accommodating for social distancing. Come and enjoy a festive brass Christmas concert!

Camp Mennoscah has an opening for part-time office/administrative position (30 hours with benefits). Some of the office/administrative tasks can be done from home. For more information, contact Olivia at olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org.

Kauffman Museum at Bethel College seeks a visitor services coordinator: an organized, detail-oriented, social media-savvy, curious, friendly individual to work 75-100% FTE with visitors, school groups, volunteers and student staffers, and to do scheduling and internal office management. The VSC will be a part of a multitasking team of five. For the job description and to apply, kauffmanmuseum.org/vsc. For more information, contact Andi Andres at asa@bethelks.edu; 316-283-1612.

Have yourself a good holiday, December 17, 4:00-6:00 PM! MCC is thrilled to host this drive-thru event again this year. Order your charcuterie box(es) today to enjoy in the comfort of your home, spread Christmas joy and order extra to give as gifts! Suggested donation per box is \$25. We're also collecting items for MCC hygiene kits at this event. Place your order by 5:00 PM on December 9. Details and order form are on mcc.org. Questions? Please call 316-283-2720.

Christmas Gathering on December 18 at 2:30 PM! Join us in the Dining Hall at Camp Mennoscah for afternoon fun--bring games to play indoors or out. Camp will provide popcorn and generic pop. (Masks recommended and encouraged for inside activities.)

Summer staff applications open! Applicants should be 18 years old or older and in agreement with the Camp Mennoscah mission statement. Information and the application can be found online. Call or email with questions!

We are grateful for you! We continue to get calls from volunteers and receive gifts of items off the Wish List. These items and projects help with the faith formation that happens at Camp Mennoscah. The list has more wishes and there are more projects to do. We can accommodate every group size, skill set and length of project you would like to tackle. Check out these ways to Get Involved! and support camp's ministry. Email office@campmennoscah.org or call 620-297-3290 to volunteer.

Get a seminary education at a distance! Strengthen your leadership skills and deepen your faith — from wherever you are located — through Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's MA: Theology and Global Anabaptism (fully online); Master of Divinity Connect (with online and hybrid courses); or Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (fully or partially online). We offer generous need-based financial aid, matching grants and scholarships! ambs.edu/academics.

NEW Seek discipleship program for young adults: Seek is a new six-month intentional discipleship program from MCC which encourages young adults (18-20 years of age) to learn more deeply what it means to be an Anabaptist follower of Jesus. The program will include multiple discipleship and service opportunities with MCC partners in Palestine and Israel and Jordan. The Seek program begins in January 2022 and takes place in Palestine and Israel. To learn more and apply for the Seek program, visit mcc.org/seek.

SALT applications are now open! Are you interested in learning a new language, visiting a new country, and joining a new community abroad? SALT applications are now open! Through SALT (young adults age 18-30), practice your skills in education, peace building, agriculture, community health care and more while connecting with the global Anabaptist community of faith. For more information, visit mcc.org/SALT or contact Abby Endashaw, Young Adult Programs Coordinator at MCC Central States abbyendashaw@mcc.org.

MCC seeking SWAP Location Coordinators in Hindman, Kentucky: MCC Appalachia's SWAP (Sharing With Appalachian People) program coordinates week-long service opportunities for young people and adults, to provide housing repair for low-income individuals and families. The Hindman Location Coordinators will plan and direct all aspects of the SWAP ministry in Hindman, Kentucky. MCC is also looking to connect with other ministries related to economic development and/or food security and would welcome location coordinators with these interests and backgrounds. Apply online for this opening by December 10 at mcc.org/swap-hindman-location-coordinators. For more information contact Amber Falcón at 574-534-4133 or AmberFalcon@mcc.org.

Are you looking for a meaningful Christmas gift for friends or family? Give a gift of peace and inspiration with the **"Pause: Play, Breathe, Pray" card deck!** Developed by Mennonite Church USA Faith Formation leaders, each card has a different image on one side and a prayerful pause on the other. Learn more here: mennoniteusa.org/pause-play-breathe-pray.

Announcements

The offering for December 5 will be for Western District. 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, contact the church office or go to the church website: firstmennonitenewton.org.

First Mennonite Church worship attendance—November 21—109.

Advent Circle participants, the craft jars in the gathering area are for you! Each household participating in Advent Circles is invited to pick up one of the canning jars setting out in the gathering area. Inside the jar you will find craft supplies and instructions for creating a colorful candle holder to remind you of Christ's light coming into the world.

Lost and found tub—there is a new tub in the Gathering Area that will be our new lost and found. When things are found in the church that look like they belong to someone, the items will be placed in this tub. Please occasionally check it to see if there is anything that is yours. After the items have been in the tub for several weeks, the items will go to the trash or Et Cetera Shop.

Harvest of Love—Throughout November and December, the Salvation Army invites you to join in our annual food and fund drive to support people in need in our county. The need for canned items is greater than it has been in the past because of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Items always needed are canned tuna, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti sauce, hamburger helper, tuna helper, cereal (of any kind), peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, and soups. Boxes are available in the Gathering Area and inside the west door by the elevator to collect nonperishable items. If you wish to make a monetary donation you may **write a check to Salvation Army** and place it in the box on the table in the Gathering Area. Every donation is a gift that makes a difference in our neighbors' lives!

Casa Betania Burrito Fundraiser—order your burritos by December 6. They will be ready for pick up on Thursday, December 9. Pick up will be a drive thru line in the east parking lot of FMC. You can choose to have your burritos cold or hot. The hot burritos

Transitional Information: HIP! HIP! HOORAY! We have a second pastoral candidate! The Search Committee and Church Board are excited to bring another candidate to our church family for our second pastor! Details about name, information, and candidating weekend will be shared today. Please continue in prayer for this candidate, our church, and our seeking God's will for FMC.