

## Upcoming Worship Services

**November 27**—1st Sunday of Advent—Restoration is Near: Watch—Pastor Luke  
**December 4**—2nd Sunday of Advent—Restoration is Near: Prepare—Pastor Luke



**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](mailto:office@firstmennonitenewton.org)

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

#### Pastoral Team

Laura Goerzen, Pastor—620-386-0518; [laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org](mailto:laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org)

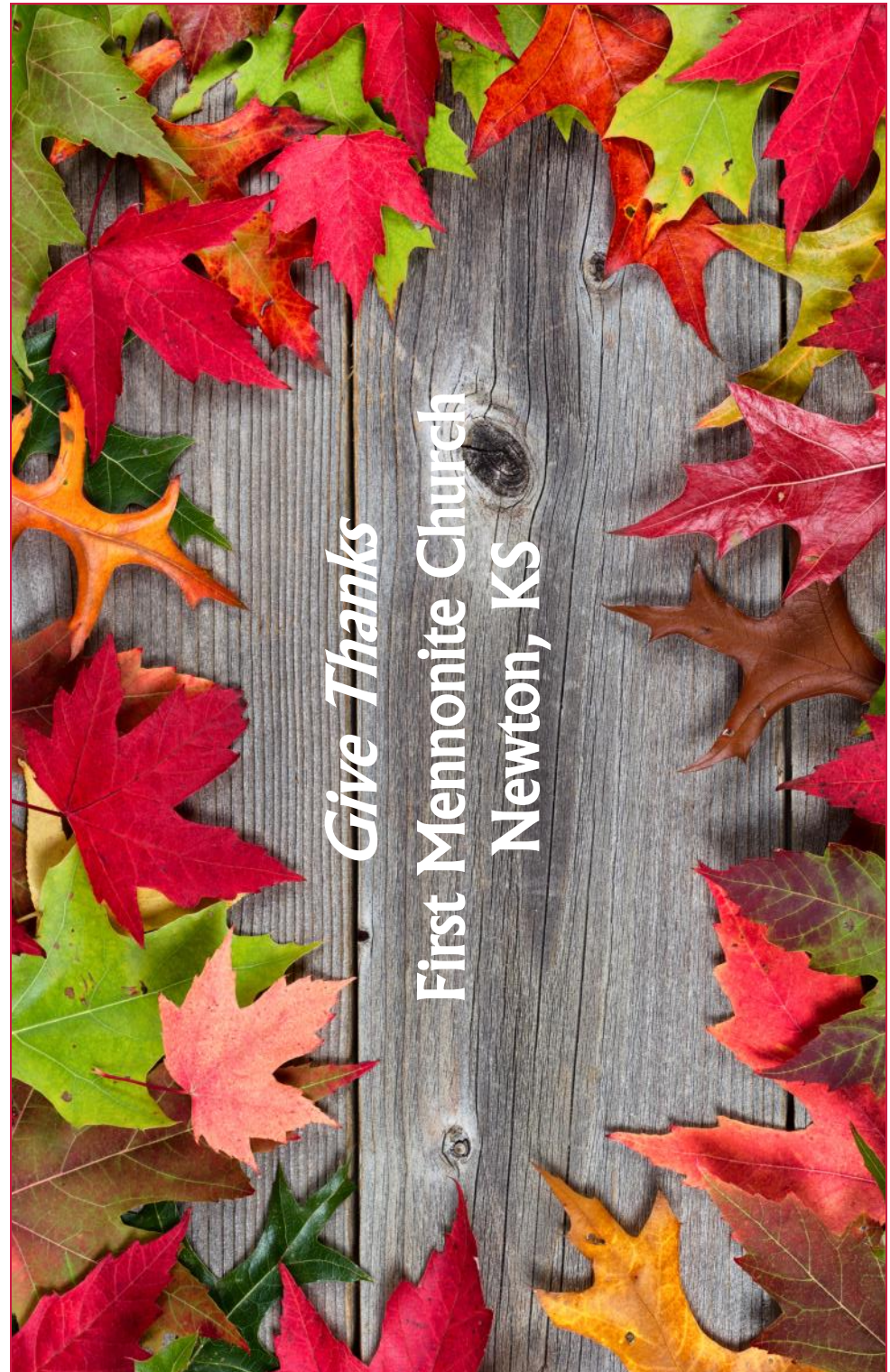
Luke Unruh, Pastor—620-386-4596; [lukeu@firstmennonitenewton.org](mailto:lukeu@firstmennonitenewton.org)

#### Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr—316-283-0273; [office@firstmennonitenewton.org](mailto:office@firstmennonitenewton.org)



*Give Thanks*  
First Mennonite Church  
Newton, KS



# *Give Thanks*

## *November 20, 2022*

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### **Gathering**

#### **Welcome**

Dave Wiebe

#### **Meditation music**

*Before the Last Leaf Falls* by David Lanz  
Amanda Entz, organist

#### **Call to worship**

*Sing a Joyful Song* by Jan Reese  
Choir

### **Listening**

#### **Worship song**

*We Praise Thee, O God* VT 91  
*We Give Thanks Unto You* VT 117

#### **Words for the children**

Sheralyn Goering

*\*Children ages 2-5 may leave for supervised play time in Room #234.*

#### **Prayer for the offering**

##### **Local Mission**

Dave Wiebe

##### **Choir song**

*Before You I Kneel* by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Jeffrey J. Taylor, Stuart Townsend, Arr. Mary McDonald

##### **Biblical story**

*The Disgruntled Messenger*  
Ken Frey

#### **Sermon**

*Grumpy About Grace*  
Pastor Luke Unruh

#### **Response song**

*God of the Fertile Fields* VT 750

#### **Prayers of the church**

Pastor Laura Goerzen

### **Sending**

#### **Sending song**

*Thanksgiving* by John Ness Beck  
Choir

#### **Announcements and benediction**

Dave Wiebe

#### **Postlude**

*Break Forth Into Joy* by J.S. Bach  
Amanda Entz, organist

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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](http://firstmennonitenewton.org)), on our Facebook page, YouTube, or at our Vimeo site. Recordings of the service will be available afterwards as well. Today, Tim Regier, Ryan Koehn and Alex Goering are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Greg Bontrager, Amanda Entz. Property Committee: Phil Gaertner. Visuals: Cindy Unruh.*

**Want to learn more about First Mennonite?**  
Scan the QR code or fill out the purple or green card in your pew and a pastor will reach out to you!



## Announcements

**There are a great many things for volunteers to do—come be one!** Any of the following are great options for groups of one or more: cleaning after groups, cutting firewood, weekend hosting, being a committee member, mowing or other maintenance/grounds tasks, making a meal for a volunteer group, or recruiting people to volunteer at camp. These are just some of the possibilities! Call us at 620-297-3290 for more information.

**MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton critically low on inventory:** An MCC kit cannot be shipped until every single item for the kit is assembled, but some supplies are so low that kits cannot be processed for shipping. You can help by helping to fill the following needs: New infant onesies and sleepers (3-12 month sizes); shampoo (20 oz or more), thin sanitary pads (28 count minimum) and dark colored bath and hand towels. Buy online and ship it to MCC or bring item to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30<sup>th</sup> St, North Newton, KS 67117). Questions are always welcome, please contact [kate-mast@mcc.org](mailto:kate-mast@mcc.org) or 316.283.2720. A full list of MCC kit contents can be found at [mcc.org/kits](http://mcc.org/kits).

**Free resource: Learning about generosity with MCC!** Make talking about generosity with your children easy by using this free resource. The printable worksheets help kids explore the basics of generosity at an elementary school level. The resource contains downloadable worksheets, activity ideas, a story about how generosity makes a difference, make-your-own bookmark craft and alternative Christmas gift ideas. Click here to sign up: [MCC generosity resource](#).

**The Kansas MDS (Mennonite Disaster Service) Unit** is sponsoring a Learning and Service trip to Jennings, Louisiana, January 28-February 4, 2023. Participants will leave on Saturday traveling to New Orleans, staying over night, learning about long term recovery from disasters and visiting Laura Plantation on Sunday. Your cost will be one night lodging, two tours we will take and meals on the days we travel. MDS is covering the transportation, meals and lodging while on the MDS project in Jennings. We will be rebuilding homes with MDS from Monday through Friday. To make your reservations or for more information contact Cleo Koop at [cleohkoop@gmail.com](mailto:cleohkoop@gmail.com) or call 316-282-0797.

**January 2-7, 2023: Peace for the Weary at Camp Deerpark:** Calling young adults living in metropolitan areas to take a break from daily life and join MCC for a transformational week of connection and learning. During this experience, you will gain tools for understanding trauma and develop strategies for self-care and healing through the lens of restorative justice to bring back to your city. Registration fee is \$200; sign up now at [mcc.org/peace-for-the-weary](http://mcc.org/peace-for-the-weary). For more information about peace camps: [mcc.org/peace-camps](http://mcc.org/peace-camps).

**The offering for November 27** 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, contact the church office or go to the church website: [firstmennonitenewton.org](http://firstmennonitenewton.org).

**Nursery care is now available** for infants and toddlers every Sunday during Sunday school and worship.

**Childcare is now available** for children ages 2-5 during the worship service. Children of this age will have the opportunity to leave after the “Words for the children” for supervised play time in the Beginner’s classroom, Room #234. Parents, please pick your children up promptly following the conclusion of the worship service.

**First Mennonite Church** worship attendance for November 13—150.

**Congratulations to Mitchell Murphy and Veronica Porras** who will be married today, November 20. May God grant them many years together.

**Due to the Thanksgiving holiday**, all bulletin announcements for the November 27 bulletin need to be turned into the Church Office by this Tuesday, November 22, at noon.

**We want to say a BIG thank you** to everyone who came out to eat at our annual Turkey Dinner this past Wednesday! It was a wonderful time of fellowship and good eating where we served about 350. We were happy to serve all of you and thank you for your support to the youth. We brought in around \$5300 to support our trip to Kansas City for MennoCon2023! Again, thank you for your contributions to the FMCB Youth Group!

**Opening representing First Mennonite on Et Cetera Shop Board.** Do you love shopping or volunteering at the Et Cetera Shop? Here’s one more way to support this community treasure! Join the Et Cetera Shop Board as they find exciting new ways to support the Newton Community and raise money for MCC Relief. Contact the church office if you are interested or would like more information. Many warm thanks go to Wynette Voth for her years of service in this position.

**Christmas time is a-coming...**Come help us decorate FMC for the Christmas season!! The first Sunday of Advent is November 27. We will decorate the church on Saturday, November 26 starting at 10:00 AM! It is a fun time of making our worship space warm and inviting as we prepare to welcome the Christ-child.

**On Sunday, November 27**, Casa Betania will be hosting a farewell service for Pastor Graciela Tijerina. This will be her last Sunday in Newton before traveling to Brownsville, Texas, the following week. There will be a light reception at 3:00 PM, service at 4:00 PM, and supper around 5:30 PM. People from First Mennonite and other sister churches are welcome to participate and share in gratitude for Graciela's three years with us.

**A support group** for survivors of sexual abuse will meet with the guidance of a professional therapist on Tuesday, November 29. If you have experienced sexual abuse, you are welcome to attend. Please contact Laura Sharp from the Caregiving and Membership Commission for details at 574-849-7205.

**Have you seen our beautiful new children's spaces?** Over the last couple of years, we've remodeled the nursery and the main floor Sunday school rooms for our youngest children. *You're invited to help us celebrate these spaces with a reception after church on Sunday, December 4.* If you'd like to help make these spaces a bit more welcoming, teachers have offered a list of specific items still needed. Check out our Amazon wish list at <https://smile.amazon.com/registries/custom/RZHL5JXVQE5B/guest-view> (or search on Amazon for the "New Spaces Celebration" gift registry for First Mennonite Church).

**Attention Singers**—It's Kansas Mennonite Men's Choir time! All men and boys who enjoy singing, are encouraged to sign up by December 21, but it's not a deadline. It's an early record date so music packets can be ordered. For more information, contact Donnie Kingsley at 316-773-8044 or email: [dl\\_jr@cox.net](mailto:dl_jr@cox.net). First rehearsal is January 29, 2:30 PM, at Hesston Mennonite Church. Also, past members please check your church mailboxes. 2023 concert schedule: April 23—Bethel College Memorial Hall—North Newton at 7:00 PM and April 30—Bethany College Presser Hall—Lindsborg—7:00 PM.

**Attend or Sponsor Annual Roots of Justice Anti-Racism Training January 13-15, 2023.**

First Mennonite's Outreach Commission hopes you will consider attending this event or sponsoring scholarships for others from our congregation and community to participate in this powerful, hope-filled training. Cost for one participant is \$300 before Dec. 1 and \$350 after Dec. 1. Donations can be made through First Mennonite if designated for "Roots of Justice." Please contact the church office if you wish to attend.

Training Dates:

Friday, January 13 (6:00—9:00 pm),

Saturday, January 14 (9:00 am—5:00 pm)

Sunday, January 15 (9:00 am—5:00 pm)

Location: Newton Recreation Commission, 415 N Poplar St., Newton, KS

**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. 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 entrance to collect nonperishable items. If you wish to make a monetary donation you may write a check to "Harvest of Love" and place it in the offering. Every donation is a gift that makes a difference in our neighbors' lives!

## Community Announcements

**Everence and MCC to host hygiene kit-making event**—You can help make the world a better place by joining Everence and MCC to assemble hygiene kits on Tuesday, November 29, 6:30-8:30 PM. The kits will be distributed through worldwide relief organizations to places like crowded refugee camps where unclean conditions can lead to the spread of serious diseases. The event will take place at Hesston Mennonite Church Community Center. You can also help by donating supplies to MCC or your Everence office in North Newton or by making a financial contribution to MCC. For more details, contact MCC at 316-283-2720 or Everence at 316-283-3800.

**Give back on Giving Tuesday** with an evening of Service & Snacks, November 29, 6:30-8:30 PM, at Hesston College Mennonite Church! Join Everence and MCC for an evening of service! We'll make MCC hygiene kits, tie comforters, write holiday cards to incarcerated people with MCC partner organization Offender Victim Ministries (OVM) and enjoy snacks! Bring your family and friends to this opportunity to *give back* on this Giving Tuesday!

**What additional programming** (events, camps, retreats, etc.) would you like to see at camp? We want to know what you'd like find on Camp Mennoscah's schedule. Contact us at [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) or 620-297-3290 to let us know what variation of a camp, retreat or stunning event would be exciting to discover at camp.

**The Newton Treble Clef Annual Vespers** will be Sunday, December 4, 3:00 PM, at First Presbyterian Church, 900 Columbus, Newton. The prelude will begin at 2:45 PM, featuring Vada Snider, Flute; and Karen Loucks, Piano. The program will include the Prelude; Treble Clef Chorus; Hearts 4 Him—Men's Ensemble; Josue Coy Dick, violin solo; and the Prairie Bronze Handbell Ensemble. A freewill offering will be taken for the scholarship fund that will be awarded to high school seniors who are pursuing a music major.

**Five Places of Christmas**, the annual holiday open house, includes Kauffman Museum and Goerz House on the Bethel College campus, December 3, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM. *No charge for admission.* The Bethel College Women's Association (BCWA) is the host at Goerz House, where there will be baked goods, candy by the pound and other items for sale. Kauffman Museum features Ten Thousand Villages and many other gift items in the museum store, a Weave Your Own Ornament activity, the special exhibition "Reeds and Wool: Patterned Screens of Central Asia" and the permanent exhibits indoors and out. (Other Five Places of Christmas locations: Warkentin House, Harvey County Historical Museum and Carriage Factory Gallery, all in Newton.)