

## Upcoming Worship Services

**December 4**—2nd Sunday of Advent—Restoration is Near: Prepare—Pastor Luke

**December 11**—3rd Sunday of Advent—Restoration is Near: Tell—Pastor Laura



**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

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# Advent 1: Restoration is Near

First Mennonite Church  
Newton, KS



# November 27, 2022

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## Gathering

### Welcome

John Goerzen, worship leader

### Meditation music

*Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord* VT 401  
Jyl Ewy, pianist

### Candle lighting

John Goerzen and Hiebert Family

Worship Leader: Watch! You know what time it is.  
Now is the moment for you to wake from sleep.

**People: The night is far gone, the day is near.**  
(light candle)

Candle Lighter: As we watch for the new day,  
we light this candle as a sign of our hope.

**People: God of hope, bring restoration to your people, we pray. Amen.**

*O Come, O Come Immanuel* (v.1)  
Hope Ewy

## Listening

### Worship songs

*Beautiful Things* VT 551  
*For the Beauty of the Earth*

### Words for the children

*A Shepherd Remembers*  
Ken Frey

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

### Prayer for the offering

**Local Mission**  
John Goerzen, worship leader

### Scripture reading

Isaiah 2:2-4  
John Goerzen

### Sermon

*Watch: The Day is Almost Here*  
Pastor Luke Unruh

### Prayers of the church

Pastor Laura Goerzen

## Sending

### Sending song

*O Come Let Us Adore Him*

### Announcements and benediction

John Goerzen, worship leader

### Postlude

*Give Thanks* Henry Smith, arr. Fred Bock  
Jyl Ewy, pianist

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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, Sarah Koehn, Ryan Koehn and Melody Enns are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Joey Menninga, Jyl Ewy, and Hope Ewy. Property Committee: John Good. Visuals: Carol Goering and 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!



**WDC Volunteer building manager transition: WDC extends thanks to John Good**, who is stepping down from his volunteer role as building manager at the 2500 Place in North Newton, KS, which houses WDC's offices, conference rooms, Resource Library and other tenants. John's skillful, cheerful and generous service to WDC over these past 10 years has been deeply appreciated, and we wish him well in the future! WDC seeks a new volunteer to offer several hours per week to manage maintenance and repairs at the 2500 Place. If you know of someone who is interested in supporting WDC in this way, please contact the office at 316-283-6300 or [wdc@mennowd.org](mailto:wdc@mennowd.org).

**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.)

**It's a Wonderful Life: The Life Radio Play**—December 3, 7:00 PM, Hesston Mennonite Church. Hesston College Music and Theatre join together to bring this beloved American holiday classic, performed as a live 1940s radio broadcast. With the help of an ensemble that brings a few dozen characters to the stage, the story of idealistic George Bailey unfolds as he considers ending his life one fateful Christmas Eve. Bel Canto Singers and Global Voices bring music before, during and after the show! It will be a beautiful night of nostalgia and holiday warmth. More info at [Hesston.edu/theatre](http://Hesston.edu/theatre) or join us at [hesston.edu/livestream](http://hesston.edu/livestream)

**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](#).

**Advent at Home 2022 worship guide**, "Restoration is Near!" for families and households is now available. Access the guide digitally or print it out [here](#). This resource comes from Mennonite Education Agency and Mennonite Church USA.

**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.

## Announcements

**The offering for December 4** 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: [first-mennonitenewton.org](http://first-mennonitenewton.org).

**Nursery care, November 27**—There will not be any caregivers assigned to the nursery this week due to scheduling conflicts. Parents are free to use the nursery for their infants and toddlers as needed

**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 20—151.

**Offering for Local Missions** from November 6 and 13—\$12,468; online Local Missions \$2,550.

**Today, 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 .

**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).

## SR. HIGH YOUTH



- Sunday School—9:15 AM
- Youth Group—Wednesday, November 30, 7:00 PM

Check your email for more information on Sunday School and Youth Group.

**Digital Media Coordinator**—First Mennonite Church is seeking a Digital Media Coordinator (DMC). This is a quarter time non-exempt position working 5 to 10 hours a week. The DMC will work in conjunction with the pastoral team to develop First Mennonite's online presence through effective use of technology and social media. The primary responsibilities for this position will be to:

- Maintain FMC's website with engaging and up to date information for those interested in learning more about FMC
- Develop our Facebook and social media presence, sharing our mission and opportunities for engagement on Sunday mornings and beyond
- Devote time to learning Realm, our church management software, and teach our church body how to utilize its various functions to enhance communication, volunteer management and connect Sunday schools and small groups
- Coordinate with photographers to maintain a collection of high-quality photos reflecting the life of the congregation together
- Develop videos or slideshows relevant to the work or worship of the church
- Help run sound and/or stream worship services as needed, particularly for week-day events
- Contribute and execute ideas for communicating who we are to the surrounding community
- Check-in weekly with the Pastoral Staff

The ideal candidate will be a team player, have strong written communication skills, be proficient in Microsoft PowerPoint and video editing software, have experience working with and/or designing websites, be familiar with running a sound system, and have the ability to work creatively and offer ideas for increasing FMC's reach on social media. Interested individuals should contact the church office for an application.

**The next quarter Sunday School materials** are here. You can find the material on the table in the Gathering Area.

**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 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.

**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!

### **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 December 1 and \$350 after December 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

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### **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.

**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.

**All bakers and craft makers** are invited to make items for 5 Places of Christmas on Saturday, December 3, at Goerz House, Bethel College, Bethel College Women's Association will again be selling baked goods, candy, craft items and poinsettias. Christmas candy, cookies, zwieback, peppernuts, poppyseed rolls and cinnamon rolls are always great sellers. Please bring your items on Friday, December 2, 1:30-4:30 PM or Saturday, December 3, 8:30-10:00 AM, to Goerz House.