

## Upcoming Worship Services

**April 23**—Pastor Luke preaching

**April 30**—Child dedication for Ella Claassen & Miles Graber, Pastor Laura preaching.



**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)

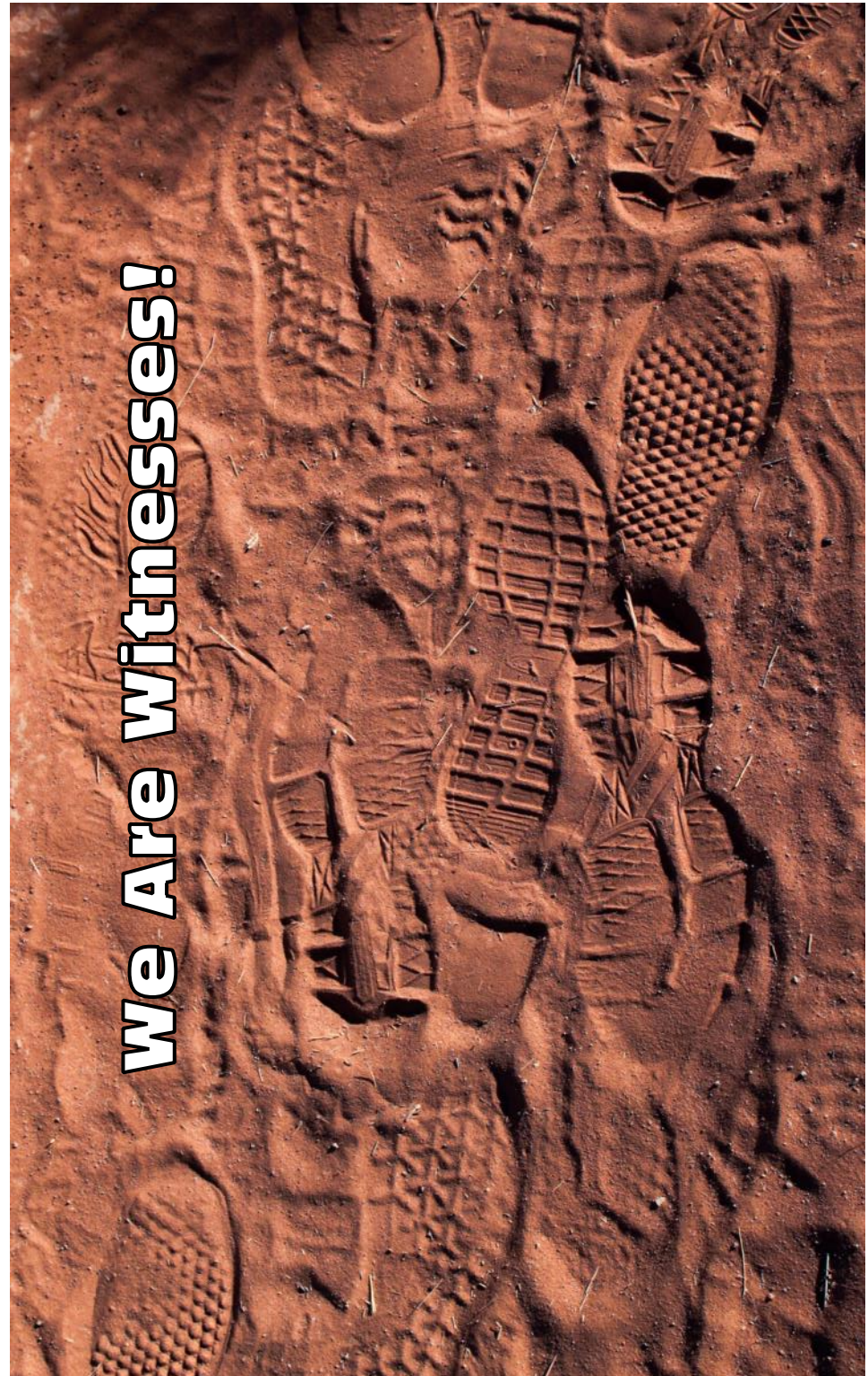
Luke Unruh, Pastor—620-386-4596; [lukeu@firstmennonitenewton.org](mailto:lukeu@firstmennonitenewton.org)

#### Administrative Assistant

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



**We Are Witnesses!**



**First Mennonite Church**  
**Newton, KS**  
**April 16, 2023**

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**Gathering**

**Welcome**

Pastor Luke Unruh

**Meditation music**

*This Joyful Day of Days*

Amanda Entz

**Call to worship**

Pastor Luke Unruh

**Listening**

**Worship songs**

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* VT 103

*Lord, I Am Fondly, Earnestly Longing* VT 555

**Reading from the Gospel of Matthew**

Matthew 28:16-20

Pastor Luke Unruh

**Words for the children**

Ken Frey

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

**Prayer for the offering**

Local Mission

Pastor Luke Unruh

**Reading from the Gospel of Luke**

Luke 24:44-49

Pastor Luke Unruh

**Sermon**

*We Are Witnesses!*

Pastor Laura Goerzen

**Song of response**

*Will You Come and Follow Me* VT 540

**Prayer of the church**

Pastor Laura Goerzen

**Sending**

**Sending song**

*As You Go Out from Here* VT 841

(3 times)

**Announcements and benediction**

Pastor Luke Unruh

**Postlude**

*Sonata No. 12, Mvt. 1* by Mozart

Amanda Entz

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**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!



SCAN ME

*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, Alex Goering and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Amanda Entz. Chorister: Daryl Unruh. Property Committee: Kevin Hamm. Visuals: Carol Goering*

## Announcements

**All Western District Conference women** are invited to join a virtual event sponsored by Western District Women in Mission on Tuesday, April 25. Jenny Gehman, spiritual director, retreat speaker, and writer, will present on "Holy Host: the Hospitality of God." Join us in person or virtually. Our in-person gathering will be at First Mennonite Church in Newton, Kansas, beginning with a salad potluck at 6:00 PM, followed by Jenny joining virtually from Pennsylvania at 6:45 PM. There is no cost to this event, but please register by April 23 by emailing [westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com](mailto:westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com) so you can receive a Zoom link if joining virtually. Please email your RSVP if attending in person and bring a salad to share. Church groups can consider gathering together to watch the Zoom. For more information, contact Wendy Schrag at 316-841-5245.

**Kitchen helpers and volunteers are needed** for the majority of camp weeks. You keep camp running by helping prepare meals in the kitchen and working on maintenance projects or custodial tasks. Your work creates an enjoyable environment for campers to have fun and learn about God. Contact Camp Mennoscah at [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) or 620-297-3290 to sign up!

**April 20-21 - Flora Kansas Spring Native Plant Days**—Come find plants at affordable prices and enjoy supporting the mission of Dyck Arboretum. Hundreds of varieties of plants will be available, many locally grown. Knowledgeable staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and give suggestions. April 20 will be open to members only and the 21st will be open to everyone. Learn more at [dyckarboretum.org/events/](http://dyckarboretum.org/events/)

**Summer youth camp registration** is open and Camp Mennoscah is receiving registrations. The summer theme is FruitFULL Faith. Get ready to learn and sing about the Fruit of the Spirit this summer—it's not a coconut! Register online at [campmennoscah.org](http://campmennoscah.org).

**Do you drink coffee that comes in a large tin can?** Camp Mennoscah is looking for lids that fit on a #10 can for a sorting and storage project. We'll take just the lids or the lids and cans. Contact us at [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) or call 620-297-3290.

**Youth ages 12 to 17 are invited** to be a Junior Volunteer at Kidron Bethel Village in North Newton or Schowalter Villa in Hesston June 1 through July 28. Junior Volunteers help facilitate activities with residents in health care and/or assisted living, including playing games, reading, going on walks and more. An application is required and must be submitted by May 10. Spaces are limited. Proof of complete COVID-19 vaccination series required. For application, contact 620-327-4821 or [shelleyl@bluestemks.org](mailto:shelleyl@bluestemks.org).

**Special estate planning webinar** for Bethel College alumni association members—April 27, 6:00-7:00 PM. Join industry experts via Zoom to learn about the impact that planning your estate can make—Randy Pankratz and Cindy Wiens—Adrian & Pankratz Attorneys at Law in Newton. The link is: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85860997275>

**Camp Mennoscah is looking** for counselors for the 2023 summer youth camps. Counselors must be at least 17 years old and 5 years older than the campers. Weekly program directors will contact people, as needed. If you have questions, contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290 or email: [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org).

**Volunteers needed at Presbyterian Manor**—we are looking for enthusiastic and friendly people who desire to make a change. If you have a special talent, want extra practice playing an instrument, enjoy playing games, or just want to visit, please contact Sarah Schmitt at 316-283-5400. (for more information, see flyer on bulletin board in Gathering Area)

**The offering for April 23** will be for Local Mission. 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 available** for infants and toddlers every Sunday during Sunday school and worship.

**Childcare is 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 April 9—249.

**April 2 and 9 offering**—Local Mission—\$10,123; online Local Mission—\$3,645.

**We are very grateful for the good turnout** and wonderful support we received from our church family and friends during the Verenike Casserole Fundraiser this past week. Before expenses we received approximately \$ 4,000. Thank you for making it possible for us to attend the Mennonite Youth Convention in Kansas City this summer. There are a few things left over from the meal that we will have for sale in the Gathering Area after the service.

~First Mennonite and Casa Betania Youth

### Wednesday Community Nights

#### April 19 meal—New Life Fellowship Sunday School

Quiche, muffins, fruit salad

Join us for a tasty meal at 5:30pm and activities for all ages from 6:30-7:30pm  
Complete dates for Spring Community Nights are: April 19, and 26.

**Beginners** (Ages 2-5) – Teacher Sara Rickard

**Elementary Class** (K-5<sup>th</sup>) – Teacher Jennie Wintermote

**Jr. Youth** (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) – Teacher Amanda Entz

**Sr. Youth** – Maintains it's regular leaders and schedule

**Adults** – Led by Pastor Laura Goerzen

**The Elementary Class** curriculum follows themes and ideas presented in MCUSA's "Diversity God's Design" adult curriculum, which have been adapted for children by Carol Duerksen of Spring's Forth. Families of Kindergarteners are welcome to choose whether their child participates in the Beginner class or Elementary Class.

**The Adult Class** will challenge and inspire participants to conduct simple experiments in learning to better know our immediate neighbors in our church pews and in our neighborhoods.



**A support group for survivors** of sexual abuse will meet with the guidance of a professional therapist on Tuesday, April 18. 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.

**My Coins Count**—thank you to everyone who gave loose change in the buckets, for the last several weeks, for the relief work of Mennonite Central Committee. **The total we will give to the MCC Relief Sale is \$905!!**

**Winner, winner, all church-carry in dinner!** Bring your food items to share on April 23, for a carry-in dinner before the Spring Congregational meeting. Drop your fully cooked dish off in the kitchen prior to Sunday School. Please bring your own tableware—drinks will be provided.

**The Spring Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday, April 23. We will have a carry-in meal following the Worship service. The meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall around 12:30 PM or as soon as possible after we finish eating. During the meeting we will hear various reports and will take action to approve financial audit report and 2022 financial report.

~Ryan Koehn, Church Moderator

**Annual Report books** have been emailed out to the congregation. If you would like a paper copy, please contact the church office and one will be printed for you.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Vacation Bible School, “Changemaker’s Lab” is coming May 30 – June 2. Activities for kids ages 4 through 4<sup>th</sup> grade (completed) will take place at Bethel College Mennonite Church from 5:30-7:30 PM. Registration information will be coming soon. Volunteer sign-ups are on-going (see bulletin insert). Participating churches include First Mennonite, Shalom Mennonite, New Creation, Faith Mennonite, Casa Betania, Bethel College Mennonite, and Zion Mennonite (Elbing).

**DELEGATES NEEDED:** If you have an interest in representing FMC at the delegate sessions at the Mennonite USA Assembly, MennoCon, in Kansas City, July 4-8, with business sessions scheduled for July 7-8, please contact Janice Good. This is an opportunity to represent FMC in the business of the wider church with registration and hotel expenses covered by FMC.

**Believe it or not, it is time to sign up** for summer camp at Camp Mennoscah. As we have in the past, the Nurture Commission will provide a \$100 scholarship to each camper from FMC and Casa Betania. You must sign up on the sign-up sheets in the Gathering Area to receive a camp scholarship from FMC. The \$100 scholarship will be paid directly to camp. To sign up for camp, go to [www.campmennoscah.org](http://www.campmennoscah.org) and click on “Register Online”! If you have any questions about the camp scholarship, please contact Sara Rickard, [sararickard@gmail.com](mailto:sararickard@gmail.com). If you would like to give to the camp scholarship fund, please make your check payable to FMC, designated to “Camp Mennoscah Scholarships.”

**College scholarship money is available** – If you (or a family member) will be attending (or are considering) a Mennonite college or university for either undergraduate study or graduate study during the 2023-2024 school year, you are invited to apply for scholarship funds from FMC. ***By no later than Sunday, April 16, 2023***, submit the completed application to either Jyl Ewy or Ron Dietzel. For each school year, an FMC application must be completed. Some Mennonite colleges provide matching funds so your monies would be doubled when enrolled in one of those schools. Eligibility criteria for the FMC funds are provided on the application. The form is available in the Gathering Area at FMC; or, by contacting Ron Dietzel or Jyl Ewy.

### Community Announcements

**Kansas Mennonite Men’s Chorus** 2023 Spring concert schedule—Sunday, April 16, 7:00 PM, at Tabor College and Sunday, April 23, 7:00 PM, at Bethel College.

**KIPCOR Film Series presents *Thirst for Justice***, today at 2:00 PM. Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center. This documentary looks at three citizen groups fighting for clean water, in the Navajo Nation, Flint, Mich., and Standing Rock. An audience talkback will follow the screening, with guest Jessica Travis, Pratt, program director at the Climate + Energy Project. Free and open to the public, with a freewill offering taken to support KIPCOR and the film series.

**Singers wanted:** Bethel College's annual Masterworks concert will be Sunday, April 30, with choir and orchestra under the direction of Dr. Henry Waters performing Beethoven "Choral Fantasy" and Mozart "Coronation Mass." The community is invited to participate. Practices begin Tuesday, April 4, 6:00-8:00 PM, in the choir room in Luyken Fine Arts Center on the Bethel campus, and take place the other Tuesdays in April (11, 18, 25), with a four-hour rehearsal Sat., April 29 (3:00-7:00 PM, dinner provided), and performance at 4:00 PM, on Sunday, with a call time of 3:00 PM. Scores and rehearsal tracks will be provided. Sign up using this form: <https://forms.gle/rqjK4dgSpYieVTvP8> or come to the first rehearsal on April 4.

**The Newton Et Cetera Shop** is receiving applications for a full-time General Manager. Newton Et Cetera is a non-profit, retail thrift shop business dedicated to reselling donated items. This position requires experience in an active retail business environment, computer and public relations skills, directing staff, and maintaining and managing a large diverse group of volunteers. An application may be picked up at the shop located at 619 N. Main, Newton, KS during the hours of 10:00 AM and 5:30 PM, Monday through Saturday or on the website at [newtonetceterashop.com](http://newtonetceterashop.com). Please submit your résumé, a cover letter and the application to Debbie Nightingale, Board Chair, at [applyetcshop@gmail.com](mailto:applyetcshop@gmail.com) or leave at the Et Cetera Shop front desk. The application deadline is April 17, 2023 and the position is available beginning in May.

**Camp Mennoscah is preparing for summer heat** with portable A/C units in the Retreat Center, since the HVAC system is not working. On April 22, beginning at 8:30 AM, volunteers are needed to help installing the A/C units. There are 26 units that need to be installed, so many hands are needed! Camp will provide lunch. Bring a water bottle and meet at the Retreat Center. If you let us know you are coming, we can be better prepared for lunch. Call or text 316-293-7313.