

## Upcoming Worship Services

**July 30**—Stories of Faith: *Martha*; Pastor Laura

**August 6**—*Stories of Faith*; 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 Newton, KS July 23, 2023



## Stories of Faith: Onesimus and Philemon

### 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)



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## Gathering

### Welcome

Chris Weaver, worship leader

### Meditation music

*Morning Song of Praise*

Jyl Ewy

### Call to worship

Chris Weaver, worship leader

## Listening

### Worship songs

*Cornerstone*

*Jesus Messiah*

### Words for the children

Lee Penner

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

### Sharing from Larry Alexander

“LA,” Community Chaplain Response Team

### Prayer for the offering—Local Mission

Chris Weaver

### Scripture reading

Philemon 1:8-21

Chris Weaver

### Sermon

*Stories of Faith: Onesimus and Philemon*

Pastor Luke Unruh

### Response song

*Living Hope*

### Prayer of the church

Pastor Laura Goerzen

## Sending

### Sending song

*The Blessing*

### Announcements and benediction

Chris Weaver, worship leader

### Postlude

*Here I am to Worship with Crown Him with Many Crowns*

Jyl Ewy

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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!



*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. Choristers: Addie and Jeff Kauffman. Musicians: Joey Menninga, Joan Entz, Jyl Ewy, Sheralyn Goering, Luke Unruh. Property Committee: Brent Voran. Visuals: Cindy Unruh.*

## Announcements

**The offering for July 30** will be for Western District Conference. 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:** July 16—148.

**We would like to encourage anyone** who “sees a need” to help beautify our church or the church grounds, to form a small group of individuals to fix the need. If your group is needing some ideas of what needs to be done, please contact someone from the Property Commission, and they will be able to give your group some suggestions.

**Mark Your Calendars!** The Nurture Commission is planning a Children/Youth Ministries appreciation brunch for Sunday, July 30, during the Sunday School hour. There will be no nursery or Sunday School for children and junior high students during that hour. (As of today, the high school class is NOT cancelled). All who have volunteered with children and youth programming this past school year have received a special invitation to attend with their families. For everyone else in the congregation who would like to attend, we are requesting that you sign up to bring fruit, a dozen muffins or a cheese plate. The Nurture Commission is providing egg casserole and cinnamon rolls. **Please RSVP to the church office by today, July 23 at [office@firstmennonitenewton.org](mailto:office@firstmennonitenewton.org)**, so we know how many participants to expect.

**SOLAR PANEL PROJECT:** From the reports we have received we should have sufficient money to do the solar panel project! We are asking that the committed money you plan to give for this project be received within the next six weeks if at all possible. We would like to secure a place to have the work done in 2024. The sooner we have the project funded the sooner we can be placed on King Solar’s project list. Thank you FMC for your generosity in funding and supporting this project. ~Financial Stewardship and Chair Board

**August Intergenerational Sunday School is Coming!** We are super excited about our line-up of activities for this year, and hope all ages join us for:

- August 6: Gift games, gift-gardens, & gift exploration with Pastor Laura & Judy Murphy
- August 13: Mandala drawing with Liz McGinness
- August 20: Knitting, tying comforters, & assembling MCC school kits with Knitting4Peace
- August 27: Flying with John Goerzen

### MCC School Kit Challenge!

Last year, Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) delivered 89,369 school kits to children in need around the world! MCC has a goal to collect 10,000 school kits this summer and distribute them during the month of August. **Please bring some items below throughout the summer, put them in the designated box in the gathering area, and the kids will pack the items into kits during the Sunday school hour on August 20.** Each school kit will include the items below.

How many kits can we make?

- 4 spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (8.5 in x 10.5 in; 70 sheets each)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 4 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small all metal pencil sharpener, one or two holes\* (must be metal, can't be plastic)

We plan to get the kit bags from the North Newton MCC office, but if anyone is interested in sewing some kit bags, the instructions are at this link: [mcc.org/get-involved/kits/bag](https://mcc.org/get-involved/kits/bag)

This activity is sponsored by the FMC Peace Pod (knitting4peace).

See Elena Entz Wiebe or Wendy Funk Schrag if you have any questions.

**FMC is needing delegates for the WDC Assembly** at Tabor Mennonite Church, Newton on August 11-13. Registration will be paid by FMC. If you are interested in attending please contact Janice Good, Church Board Chair for more information.

**CALLING ALL ASPIRING MUSICIANS!** The new Evelyn Smith Music Scholarship Fund is accepting applications for those in the First Mennonite and Casa Betania church communities who would like to receive a scholarship to help cover the cost of music (piano, instrumental, voice, dance) lessons during Fall 2023. Applications will be accepted through August 15. For more information, contact Barb Claassen by phone (620-242-4325) or email [s.claassen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.claassen@sbcglobal.net).

**Knitting4Peace will meet in the Fellowship Hall** on Tuesday, August 1 at 7:00 PM. Come tie a comforter, knit, crochet, etc and donate hand-made items to MCC and local organizations. We will also plan our August 20 Sunday school time and look through the items donated so far for MCC school kits and see what specific items may still be needed for packing school kits during the August 20 Sunday school hour. All are welcome!

### Community Announcements

**Newton Community Theatre and Bethel College Academy of Performing Arts (BCAPA)** will present *The Sound of Music* musical—**today, July 23, 2:00 PM. We have several members from FMC that are participating in this musical.** Tickets are on sale now at <https://newton-community-theatre.square.site/>. You can also purchase tickets at the door or reserve in advance at the Newton Rec Center. All ticket sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.

**Warkentin House Summer Sunday Concert series—September River—today, July 23, 4:30-6:00 PM; Sometimes on Sunday-Sunday, August 27, 4:00-6:00 PM; Kilometer 81-Sunday, September 3, 4:00-6:00 PM.** Warkentin House Museum, 211 E. 1st Street, Newton. There will be food trucks and self guided tours. Limited seating, please bring lawn chairs or blankets. Free admission but donations will be accepted.

**Tell the young adults in your life!** MCC is organizing two Peace Camps this year for those ages 18-30 who are hungry to connect, root themselves in intentional, theological reflection and apply that to the real-world work of peace and justice in their communities. The registration cost is \$200 and all other expenses are covered, including travel, lodging and food! **July 23-28:** Peacebuilders Training in Colorado Springs, CO. **October 15-20:** Descolonizando la construcción de paz | Decolonizing Peace training in Puerto Rico in Spanish. Information and registration can be found at <https://mcc.org/peace-camps>.

**Get ready for a celebration** of a summer of faith formation and camp songs! The Camp Sing will be August 5, at Hope Mennonite Church in Wichita. This is a time to gather for an evening of singing and friends. All ages, campers and others—everyone is invited! Details will be forthcoming. Put it on your calendar so you don't miss out.

**Colorado Peaches are coming!** The Palisade peaches on the Western Slope are supposed to be a good crop this year thanks to the moisture during the winter and spring. Please email [patsydirksen@mcc.org](mailto:patsydirksen@mcc.org) to place your peach order from **July 24-August 5**. Two sizes are available: 10 lbs. for \$30 and 18 lbs. for \$41. Checks should be made payable to Beth-El Mennonite Church with "Peaches" in the memo line and payment (cash/check only) is due by **August 5** to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30<sup>th</sup> St.). Peaches will be available for pickup from the MCC Material Resources Center on **Monday, August 21**. This is a fundraiser for the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale held in Rocky Ford, Colorado October 20-21.

**The July edition of *On the Level*** is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In this issue: Kevin King shares some lessons learned in the wilderness; learn about an MDS family project bringing a new look to a campground in Wyoming; and hear from a long-time project director talk about why he continues to serve with MDS. Click on this link to read more: <https://conta.cc/3DlnAQX>

**The 2023 issue of the Bethel College journal *Mennonite Life*** is online: [ml.bethelks.edu](http://ml.bethelks.edu) and includes a poem by Cheryl Denise and prose poems by Abigail Carl-Klassen; a sermon by Sheri Hostetler; Brad Gregory's Menno Simons Lectures from 2022; articles by Johnny Wideman and Nathan Garber; and reviews by Ben Woodward-Breckbill, Hannah Neufeld, Willmar Harder, Brad Born, Josue Coy Dick, Daniel Shank Cruz, Rachel Waltner Goossen, Joe Smucker, Kimberly Schmidt and Melanie Springer Mock.

**Save the Date!** The Women's and Girls Retreat will be September 9 & 10 at Camp Mennoscah sponsored by Western District Women in Mission. The theme this year is "Women Talking, Listening and Creating." Come for a time of friendship, fellowship, and story-telling in a variety of forms with Tammy Duvanel Unruh, Wendy Funk Schrag and others. Watch for registration information on the WDC website and your church bulletins. Follow us on Facebook: Western District Women in Mission.