

Upcoming Worship Services

August 20—Pastor Luke—*Stewarding Creation*

August 27—Celebrating *The Peace Table* Storybook Bible



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 (firstmennonitewton.org), on our Facebook page, YouTube, or at our Vimeo site. Recordings of the service will be available afterwards as well. Today, Joey Menninga, Brian Kennell and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Choristers: Jeff and Addie Kauffman. Property Committee: Kevin Hamm. Visuals: Carol Goering.

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

PO Box 291, 429 E. First Street, Newton, KS 67114-0291

Phone: 316-283-0273

E-mail: office@firstmennonitewton.org

Website: www.firstmennonitewton.org

Pastoral Team

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

Luke Unruh, Pastor—620-386-4596; lukeu@firstmennonitewton.org

Administrative Assistant

Tracy Kerr—316-283-0273; office@firstmennonitewton.org



Joy and Generosity

First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS
August 13, 2023

Gathering

Welcome

Pastor Luke Unruh

Meditation music

Joy has Dawned

Donna Stucky, organist

Call to worship

Pastor Luke Unruh

Listening

Worship songs

Come, Christians, Join to Sing VT 28

God, Whose Giving VT 745

Words for the children

Nick Sharp

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

Prayer for the offering—Local Mission

Pastor Luke Unruh

Scripture reading

Psalm 112, 2 Corinthians 8:9-15

Pastor Luke Unruh

Sermon

Joy and Generosity

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Response song

Who Will Speak a Word of Warning VT 758

Prayer of the church

Laura Sharp

Sending

Sending song

There's Enough for All VT 757

Announcements and benediction

Pastor Luke Unruh

Postlude

Joy, Joyful Joy

Donna Stucky, organist

Save the Date!

FMC has reserved Camp Mennoscah for **September 2-3**. Save the date and plan to join us at camp for worship, food, fellowship, and fun!

Check your church mailboxes for more information and how to register.

Please make checks out to First Mennonite Church with Camp Mennoscah weekend in the memo line and drop them off at the church office with your registration form.

If you need transportation to camp, please indicate this on your registration form. Also, let us know on your registration sheet if you have special food needs.

~The Celebration Committee

Announcements

The offering for August 20 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.

Nursery care is available for infants & toddlers every Sunday during Sunday school & 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: August 6—128.

Local Missions Update: Due to a number of larger expenditures in July, we ended the month with a deficit. For the year, we need \$53,000 to get us in the black. Whatever you can do to defray this deficit will be appreciated. ~Betty Pauls, Treasurer

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

This Thursday, August 17, Josh Kennell will be giving a presentation on climate change as a part of his senior seminar project. This will involve two short surveys and an interactive session using a climate modelling software. This is located at Kidron Hall (the new chapel) in Kidron Bethel, and will run from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. All are welcome!

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

- August 20: Knitting, tying comforters, & assembling MCC school kits with Knitting4Peace
- August 27: Flying with John Goerzen

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.

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

THANK YOU for contributing items to our MCC school kits project! We will be packing the school kits during Sunday School on August 20. Come join the fun! In order to have at least 50 (!!) complete school kits, we could use more of the following items: 70 sheet spiral notebooks, rulers (inch and cm markings), black or blue ballpoint pens, and kit bags (instructions for sewing are at mcc.org/get-involved/kits/bag). Place your items in the boxes in the gathering area by Saturday morning, August 19. Thanks again!

Work Day at the Muse Apartment Grounds. Come to the Muse Apartments on Saturday, August 26, anytime between 8:00 AM and Noon to help clear brush and improve flower beds. Bring water and work gloves. Lunch will be served. This work day is a joint effort involving several neighborhood organizations including New Creation and First Mennonite. A sign up sheet is on the information table in the gathering area. Come to work and enjoy connecting with others who care about our neighborhood!

Community Announcements

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 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.

You are invited to the MDS Region 3 Annual Meeting September 15 and 16 in Boulder, Colorado. Virtual attendance is available. Throughout the weekend you will have opportunities to meet/greet some of the MDS binational staff and learn about MDS activities. You can register online. The registration fee of \$20 for individuals and \$30 for couples to cover meal costs will be collected on-site when you register at the table. We are excited to have Kevin King, MDS Executive Director; Paul Johnson, Rocky Mountain Unit Chair; and Matt Troyer-Miller, Region 3 Operations Coordinator speak at this event. If you have questions contact Stephen Hochstetler at 919-825-0354 or email shochstetler@mds.org.

Registration for the Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreats is open. The retreats are scheduled for November 3-5 and November 10-12. All retreat activities will happen at the Main Camp facilities with cropping and crafts in the dining hall and lodging in the bunkhouses. (The Retreat Center will be undergoing HVAC renovations.) Single rooms are not available. Contact us at 620-297-3290 with questions or issues. We'll see you in the fall!

MCC is looking for a driver with a semi tractor that would be willing to transport cardboard paper bales for recycling from the MCC warehouse in North Newton to Wichita. This is an immediate need, but MCC anticipates needing help like this 4-5 times per year. If you can help or have questions, please reach out to Duane Unruh at MCC at 785.760.1390 or duaneunruh@mcc.org.

Seeking an Admissions Counselor. Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana, is accepting applications for this 0.5 FTE position. The person in this role will serve as a member of the AMBS Admissions Team, recruiting and working with prospective students from the U.S., Canada and across the world and connecting with church leaders and alumni about AMBS programs and offerings. See the full job description: amb.edu/jobs

SAVE THE DATE—Plan to join us at the 2023 Bluestem Gala for an evening of amazing food, entertainment and memories, all to support the Bluestem Communities mission. The 2023 Bluestem Gala will be Thursday, November 2. An invitation will be sent to you later this fall with more details. Your support of this annual event will benefit the three benevolent funds for Bluestem PACE, Kidron Bethel Village and Schowalter Villa.

Hope Mennonite Church is delighted to invite you to an evening of fun and inspiring music Sunday, August 27, 6:30 PM. You will be entertained by the lead vocalists of Everyday Lights, Paul Austin and Jennifer (Hope) Chlumsky from Salina, KS. They combine a variety of musical styles including folk, bluegrass, jazz, country, and traditional hymns. Many of their songs are original. As you listen to the concert, a dessert and snack bar with sweet and salty snacks will be available. No tickets are necessary but a free-will donation will be gladly accepted with the proceeds going to Camp Mennoscah. Hope Mennonite Church – 868 N Maize Rd, Wichita, KS