

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, November 5—*Crossing the Red Sea*—Pastor Luke

Daylight Saving Time ends

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship service

4:00 PM Casa Betania worship service

Tuesday, November 7

9:30 AM Stay “N Play

7:00 PM Peace Pod-FH

Wednesday, November 8—Community Night

10:00 AM Staff Meeting

5:45 PM Meal served by Christian Fellowship: Chili, Fritos, Condiments , Ice Cream

6:45 PM Choir—Sanctuary

6:45 PM Activities for all ages—Assemble Hygiene Kits for MCC

7:30 PM Men’s Bible Study—Warkentin Room

Sunday, November 12—Fall Congregational Meeting/Potluck

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship service

12:00 Noon Carry in meal and Congregational Meeting

4:00 PM Casa Betania service

Upcoming Worship Services

November 19—Steve Thomas from Mennonite Men

November 26—*Crossing Into the Promised Land*—Pastor Luke



Becoming a People of God: Crossing the Red Sea

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH

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

Phone: 316-283-0273

E-mail: office@firstmennonitenewton.org

Website: www.firstmennonitenewton.org

Pastoral Team

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

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

*Pastor Laura and Pastor Luke are in the church office Monday-Thursday.

Administrative Assistant

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



First Mennonite Church Newton, KS November 5, 2023

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Gathering

Welcome

Dave Wiebe, worship leader

Meditation music

You Are the Light
Choir

Call to worship

Dave Wiebe, worship leader

Listening

Worship songs

Mother God You Gave Me Birth VT 426
Holy Spirit, Come With Power VT 57

Children's time

Ken Frey

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

Time of Remembrance

Special music

We Thank You for Beloved Saints
Choir

Prayer for the offering—Mennonite Central Committee

Dave Wiebe

Scripture reading

Exodus 14:5-9, 19-31
Naaman Frey and Michael Garcia

Sermon

Becoming a People of God: Crossing the Red Sea
Pastor Luke Unruh

Prayer of the church

Pastor Laura

Sending

Sending song

God Our Protector
Ben's Band

Announcements and benediction

Dave Wiebe, worship leader

Postlude

The Lorica
Ben's Band

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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), on our Facebook page, YouTube, or at our Vimeo site. Recordings of the service will be available afterwards as well. Today, Isaac Koehn, Ryan Goertzen Regier and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Ben's Band. Visuals: Cindy Unruh. Property Committee: Kevin Hamm.

Everence will hold its popular Medicare workshop at its office in North Newton on Thursday, November 16 at 6:30 PM. Topics will include, when and where to sign up for Medicare, what Medicare covers, plus an explanation of Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D. Attendance is recommended for those approaching retirement or those ready to sign up for Medicare. The in-person workshop will be held at the Everence office: 3179 N. Main St. Suite 1B, North Newton. Those interested in attending should contact the Everence office at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or central.kansas@everence.com.

We need your help! On Saturday, November 18, Buhler Mennonite Church & IdeaTek need your help to package 50,000 meals. Our plan is to keep the meals local—providing food for our local neighbors. What a great way to give of your time during the Thanksgiving season to help those who struggle to put food on the table. There is a job for all ages 7 to 147 years of age. You can work one shift or both shifts. Job orientation is provided. This will be held at the Sand Hills Event Center 4601 N. Plum in Hutchinson and there are two shifts available. 1st Shift (Arrive 8:45 AM for the 9:00-11:00 AM). 2nd Shift (Arrive 10:45 AM for 11:00 AM-1:00 PM). Sign up at: www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0545AEAD2EA1F58-44960089-50000 or call 620-543-2733, email: bmcpastor@gmail.com.

Volunteers are needed immediately to work (M-F) alongside the facilities director on general maintenance tasks. Working on these regular maintenance tasks will allow more time for planning and preparation for the Retreat Center HVAC project. The project is running behind and we need to make up time! Call or text Jordan at 316-613-1848. Calls/texts will be answered between 8:00 AM-5:00 PM. Volunteer hours will also be 8:00 AM-5:00 PM, or a portion of that time. Please bring a water bottle and your lunch.

M&M Project Update: SO CLOSE! As of October 16, we have raised more than \$90,000 for the Mission and Maintenance Project at Camp Mennoscah! Thank you all who have supported this effort with your prayers and your gifts. It shouldn't be long before we reach our goal of \$100,000, matching our generous giver who started this challenge back in the Spring.

Get busy giving on Giving Tuesday at an Evening of Service at MCC! November 28 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, at MCC in North Newton, KS. Bring *new dark colored* hand towels with you to pack hygiene kits (the more towels you bring, the more kits we can pack!). MCC partner Offender Victim Ministries will be here with supplies to write holiday greetings to prisoners, we'll have comforters to tie and delicious snacks to enjoy. What a great way to give on Giving Tuesday!

Driving through Kansas on your way south this winter? Are you heading to South Texas? If so, MCC Central States in North Newton, KS is looking for your help! We need to transport 25 boxes of kits to a partner in McAllen, TX. Please contact Kate Mast at katemast@mcc.org with any questions or interest. Thanks!

MCC Comforter update – thank you to all the hardworking MCC comforter makers who make beautiful, high-quality gifts to share with our partners around the world! The MCC guidelines for comforters were recently updated after receiving feedback from partners around the world. For complete MCC comforter information, including the updated guidelines, check out the [Comforters page of our website](http://mcc.org/get-involved/kits/comforters) (mcc.org/get-involved/kits/comforters). Please reach out to the Workroom Supervisor, Kate Mast (katemast@mcc.org), with any comforter questions!

Announcements

The offering for November 12 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 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 October 29—121; Sunday School—126.

Local Mission offering for October 15, 22, 29—\$7,104. Local Mission online—\$6,451.

Thank you so much for all the cards and prayers since my fall. My hip and arm were broken but have healed nicely. I'm doing much better. Calls and visits are always appreciated. ~Kathryn Penner

FMC enjoys eating together!! Sharing meals and fellowship around tables is something that we all enjoy. We are grateful for the adult classes that lovingly prepare a meal for our Wednesday enjoyment. Along with the prep for weekly meals comes clean-up. The clean-up uses linens. Our linens need to make a quick turn-around since we use them weekly. Please return your washed linens to the kitchen drawers promptly so that the drawers are stocked for the following Wednesday meal prep and clean-up. Thanks for your cooperation

The FMC Peace Pod (Knitting4Peace) will meet on Tuesday, November 7 at 7:00 PM, in the Fellowship Hall to tie comforters and work on additional crochet and knitting projects for local organizations. Come join us!

The Fall Congregational Meeting will be held next Sunday, November 12. 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 take action on the 2024 budget and ballot for commissions, committees, and board positions. ~Ryan Koehn, Church Moderator

Carry-in lunch before the Congregational Meeting—Please bring a fully cooked dish or two to share. Food can be dropped off in the kitchen before Sunday School. You are invited to bring your own table ware.

Special Offering: Our brothers and sisters from Casa Betania are organizing a special offering for friends and family members who have been affected by hurricane Otis in Acapulco, Mexico. If you would like to contribute to this effort, you can make checks out to Casa Betania and place them in the offering baskets, Linda Shelly's mailbox, or mail them to the church office at PO Box 291, Newton, KS 67114.

● **Don't want to cook? Want time to connect and serve alongside others who follow Jesus? Join us for Wednesday Community Nights!**

- Meal at 5:45-6:45 PM—served by Christian Fellowship Sunday school class
Chili, Fritos, Condiments, Ice Cream
 - Service projects for all ages at 6:30 PM
 - **November 8:** Assemble hygiene kits for MCC
- *Alternative projects will be available for those with physical limitations.
- Childcare for children ages 2-4 available from 6:30-7:30 PM

Hygiene kits for MCC: During our Wednesday Community night on November 8, we will be assembling hygiene kits for MCC. You are welcome to donate full kits, alongside plenty of extra dark colored hand towels. MCC has indicated that dark colored hand towels are a particular need. Place donations in the box in the Gathering Area. New items only, please.

- 1 adult-sized toothbrush (in manufacturer's packaging)
- 1 large bar bath soap (in original wrapper)
- 1 nail clipper (good quality)
- 1 hand towel (medium weight, dark or bright colors preferred); approx. 40 cm x 65 cm (16 in x 26 in)
- 1 wide-toothed comb; 15-20 cm (6-8 in)

Save the Date! Youth Group Turkey Dinner, Wednesday, November 15, 5:30-7:00 PM, in Fellowship Hall. Menu: roast turkey, mashed potatoes and turkey gravy, cranberry salad, corn, homemade rolls, and pumpkin dessert. There will be some alternative foods for those with food sensitivities. Carry-out meals will also be available while the serving line is open. Proceeds will go mainly to Youth Group's summer mission trip.

The Caregiving and Membership Commission invites you to a 3 Sunday intergenerational series on Mental Health during Sunday School on November 5, 12, and 19. The first two will be led by Patrick Flaming, Director of Access Services at Prairie View, and the third will be led by Lee and Deb Penner, representatives from the National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI). We will discuss a variety of topics. Rolls and coffee will be provided! Hope to see everyone there!

Buddy-up for Scripture Reading! Worship Commission would like to encourage people of all ages, from different generations, to consider pairing up to read scripture for us in Sunday morning worship. Youth, team up with a sponsor, children, team up with a Sunday school teacher, friends or colleagues that cross generational lines, team up with each other! Grab a buddy and sign up for a date to read scripture on the sign up sheet in the back. If you would like to read, but prefer us to match you with a partner, sign up too!

Harvest of Love—Throughout November and December, the Salvation Army invites you to join in their 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!

Check out the new Historical Committee display case in the Gathering Area all about CHRISTMAS AT FMC in the early 20th Century. Enjoy the mini version of what our sanctuary used to look like in 1903, and some vintage candle clips and ornaments (on loan from Kauffman Museum). Thank you to those of you who have shared FMC Christmas memories so far! We could use MORE. We will be collecting memories all year for our Christmas display 2024. Just contact Andrea Regier (see directory).

Community Announcements

Et Cetera Shop Christmas Set up Day: Join our staff today, November 5th as we set up for our Christmas Open on Monday, November 6th. We are asking for as many volunteers as possible as we have numerous items to put out! We will begin at 11:00 AM this morning and continue until we are finished. Lunch will be provided! If you can help, give us a call (316-283-9461) or email James at generalmanager@newtonetceterashop.com and let us know!

The 2023-24 Prairie Window Concert Series continues with Scott Mulvahill today at 4:00 PM, at the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston. Join us for an evening of great music and delicious food from Crust & Crumb in a prairie garden setting. [Purchase tickets online](#) at dyckarboretum.org or call [620-327-8127](tel:620-327-8127) to reserve your seats.

TODAY—Bethel Sings, a concert featuring all Bethel College vocal groups, Dr. Henry S. Waters, director at 4:00 PM, at Bethel College Mennonite Church (2600 College Ave., North Newton 67117)

Julia Spicher Kasdorf: "Thinking of Certain Mennonite Women: Reading from her poems and those of others, with discussion," is on Monday, November 6 at 7:00 PM at the Administration Building chapel at Bethel College. Sponsored by the Bethel College Women's Association Carolyn Schultz Lecture Endowment, Bethel's English department and convocation. Kasdorf will speak in convocation Monday, November 6, at 11:00 AM, in Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center, on "Documentary Poetry," and lead a reading and open mic at 1887 Café in Schultz Student Center, on Tuesday, November 7, at 7:30 PM.

Everence will hold an informative Medicaid and long-term care workshop on Monday, November 6, starting at 6:30 PM. Topics will include, what benefits are provided by Medicaid and who is eligible, how the Division of Assets process works, when long-term care insurance is a good fit, and how long-term care insurance can protect your heirs. The in-person workshop will take place at the Everence office: 3179 N. Main St. Suite 1B, North Newton, KS. Information will be presented by guest speaker, Cynthia A. Wiens, attorney from Adrian & Pankratz, P.A. To register contact Everence at 316-283-3800, 877-467-7294 or [cen-tral.kansas@everence.com](mailto:central.kansas@everence.com).

Living that Matters for Men: A half-day retreat. Men, what kind of man do you want to be and how can you live a life that matters? In this half-day retreat, men will examine scripts we've been given, explore differing expressions of masculinity, and reconsider our purpose in life. This retreat will be led by Steve Thomas, director of Mennonite Men and author of *Living that Matters* (Herald Press, 2023), at Shalom Mennonite Church, Newton from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, on Saturday, November 11. See more information or register at www.mennonitemen.org/.