

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, January 28

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship service and Communion;
Speaker: FMC Historical Committee
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania service

Wednesday, January 31

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 6:45 PM Youth Group
- 7:00 PM Warkentin Room reserved

Saturday, February 3

- 11:00 AM Kathryn Penner's memorial service followed by a light lunch-FMC

Sunday, February 4

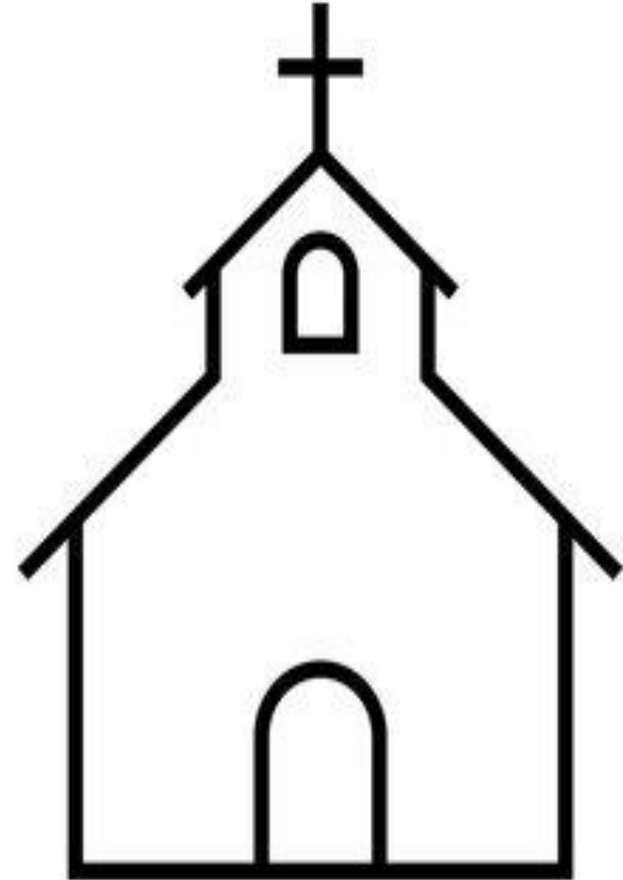
- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship service—*Church as Body*—Pastor Laura
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania service
- 6:00 PM 1A Table Discussion Opportunity—Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 11

- 9:15-11:30 AM 1B Table Discussion Opportunity—Fellowship Hall
- 9:15-11:30 AM Children's Sunday school followed by childcare
No adult Sunday school or worship service

Upcoming Worship Services

- February 18—Pastor Laura preaching



Looking Back: A History of First Mennonite

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 January 28, 2024

Gathering

Welcome

Casson Schmidt, worship leader

Meditation Music

Sweet, Sweet Spirit
Jyl Ewy

Introduction to Special Worship Service

David Wiebe

Call to Worship

Casson Schmidt, worship leader

Listening

Worship Songs

Just a Place
Living Hope

Children's Time

Chris Weaver

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

Prayer for the Offering—Scholarship Fund

Casson Schmidt

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 4:2-6
Casson Schmidt

First Mennonite's History of Conflict and Working Through Change

Andrea Regier and Ron Dietzel
First Mennonite Historical Committee

Song of Preparation

Jesus Messiah

Sharing Communion

Sending

Sending Song

In Christ Alone

Announcements and Benediction

Casson Schmidt, worship leader

Postlude

God be With You Till We Meet Again
Jyl Ewy

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, Sarah Koehn, Ryan Koehn, Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Joey Menninga, Jyl Ewy, Joan Entz, Luke Unruh. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering. Property Committee: Kevin Hamm.

Hope for the Future—Registration is now open for Hope for the Future, MC USA's annual gathering that brings together Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) leaders connected to Mennonite Church USA from across the nation. This will be February 9-11 in Dallas, Texas. To learn more, go to: www.mennoniteusa.org/news/2024-hope-for-the-future-details/

Safe Church, Mennonite Church USA's newly formed abuse prevention ministry, now has a webpage available on the MC USA website. The webpage offers resources, including the updated Circle of Grace curriculum, to help faith communities keep children, youth and vulnerable adults safe from all abuse. Read more here: mennoniteusa.org/safechurch

WANTED—Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's, Campers, Tractors, Modern Farm Equipment, etc. for the KS MCC Sale. Items you no longer need can help Feed and Cloth Thousands in desperate living conditions. ALL donations are Tax Deductible. Call Jerry Toews for info: 620-367-8257. Help make a difference. ~KS MCC Sale Committee

Registration is now open for the annual Bluestem PACE Race 5K run/walk on Saturday, April 6, in McPherson. Registration by March 20 is \$30 and includes a race shirt. Complete registration online at bluestempace.org/events. Bluestem PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly), is a nonprofit that is part of Bluestem Communities and is dedicated to helping seniors with complex medical needs live well at home by providing comprehensive care from one source.

The phone system for Camp Mennoscah is changing. The 3014 number will no longer be a camp phone number. The main camp number of 620-297-3290 is the best number to use. The new system will not go in until after the Retreat Center HVAC project is complete. While offices are in the temporary spaces, there will be more limited access to staff by phone. Please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Camp Mennoscah staff hours will be changing and offices have moved from the Retreat Center. These changes are happening with the start of the Retreat Center HVAC Project. There may be delays as the offices and staff are resettled in their new (temporary) locations. Some staff will be working off-site, which changes the frequency of certain office tasks. Thank you for your understanding!

Bethel College invites you to their *Bethel College Hartzler Lecture Series* with this year's presenters César García, [Mennonite World Conference](#) General Secretary, and Sandra Báez, Pastor and Executive Assistant to the General Secretary. This is open to the public on Sunday, March 17, 7:00 PM, in the Administration Building Chapel and on Monday, March 18, 11:00 AM in Krehbiel Auditorium. All are welcome! Local Church leaders are also invited to a luncheon with César and Sandra on Thursday, March 21 at 12:00 PM, at the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (KIPCOR) on College Ave, North Newton, KS. Church leaders, please fill out this registration form if you plan to attend: <https://forms.gle/Xrg5xidGwsveG1519> (alt. location is the Bethel College Mennonite Church [BCMC] Fellowship Hall, downstairs)

Announcements

The offering for February 4 will be for Mennonite Central Committee. 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.

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.

FMC worship attendance for January 21—168; Sunday school—141.

Thank you to: Rachel Koehn, Nora Miller, Jeff Enns, and Elena Entz for the beautiful homemade rolls we shared during communion!

In sympathy—D. A. Raber (96) passed away on January 15, in Pampa, Texas. His memorial service was held Saturday, January 27, in Pampa. D. A. and Erma were a member of FMC until October 2014. We extend our condolences to D. A.'s family and friends.

Congratulations to Paul & Wendy Schrag and Robert & Linda Koch on the birth of their granddaughter Eden Ivy. She was born January 16, to Evan and Abby (Schrag) Koch.

Kathryn Penner's memorial service will be this Saturday, February 3, 11:00 AM here at FMC. There will be a light lunch in Fellowship Hall following the service.

The church office will be closed this Friday, February 2.

Community Night Kick-Off: Help us pack infant care kits! Outreach Commission thinks we can do more than fill the manger with sleepers and onesies; we think FMC can pack a carload of complete infant care kits! Below are the items needed for the infant care kits. Please bring your items to church and place them in or around the manger in the Gathering area no later than Tuesday, February 6.

All requested items should fit infants **6-12 months**

- 3 gowns/sleepers (flannel or similar warm, soft material)
- 3 undershirts/onesies (short or long sleeves)
- 1 receiving blanket [lightweight fleece or flannel, minimum 75 cm x 75 cm (30 in x 30 in), larger sizes preferred]
- 4 large, heavy-duty safety pins (will be provided)
- 1 large bar mild soap (leave in wrapper)
- 1 pair of socks
- 1 cap

PLANNING GROUP OPPORTUNITIES: The Planning Group invites any who are interested to attend the table discussion opportunities and give input into the inclusion of LGBTQIA+ persons at FMC. Each table discussion opportunity will consist of four focused questions for listening, sharing, and hearing our stories around the tables in Fellowship Hall. Each session will have two opportunities to attend:

FIRST TABLE DISCUSSION OPPORTUNITY: WHO IS FMC CURRENTLY?

1A: Sunday, February 4, Fellowship Hall, 6:00-8:00 pm, childcare will be available

OR

1B: Sunday, February 11, Fellowship Hall, 9:15-11:30 am

Please note: No adult SS classes, or worship service will be held.

Children's SS classes and childcare following will be offered.

SECOND TABLE DISCUSSION OPPORTUNITY: WHO IS GOD CALLING FMC TO BE IN THE FUTURE?

2A: Sunday, February 25, Fellowship Hall, 6:00-8:00 pm, childcare will be available

OR

2B: Sunday, March 3, Fellowship Hall, 9:15-11:30 am

Please note: No adult SS classes, or worship services will be held.

Children's SS classes and childcare following will be offered.

The questions for each session will be shared the week prior to the discussion opportunities. A survey opportunity will be offered to all the week following the last table discussions. Everyone is encouraged to attend the discussion opportunities and complete the survey at the end. This is your opportunity to share, listen, and be in prayer for the Holy Spirit's leading as we move forward on this journey.

To help us facilitate these meeting times, we would like to know when you plan to attend each table discussion. Please fill out this survey to indicate your plans. There is also a place to let the planning group know if you will need childcare when you attend. <https://forms.office.com/r/9ttYsV7HVD> Please fill out the attendance survey by January 30.



SR. HIGH YOUTH



Youth Group—Wednesday, January 31, at 6:45 PM
Mission Night

Wednesday Community Nights Start February 7—Join us for a tasty meal at 5:30 PM and activities for all ages from 6:30-7:30 PM. Dates for Spring Community Nights are: February 7, 14, 21, 28, March 6 and 20. There will be no Community Night on March 13 due to Spring Break. Save the dates! More information will be coming soon.

SAVE THE DATE PLEASE! ALL COMMITTEE/COMMISSION/CHURCH BOARD MEMBERS: Please plan to attend a retreat on Saturday morning, February 10, 8:30 -11:30 AM, at the Garden level room, in the Waters Edge building at Schowalter Villa in Hesston. More details will be shared soon. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Community Announcements

The Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestra presents their Winter Classics Concert this afternoon, January 28, 4:00 PM, in the Newton High School auditorium. The "Arctic Pastoral" features music by Finnish composers Jean Sibelius and Eiojuhani Rautavaura. Dwight Beckham Young Soloists Ava Waln, saxophone, and Josué Coy Dick, violin perform works by Henri Tomasi and Samuel Barber. Tickets: Adults \$15-20; Students \$7; twelve and under are free with an adult. Purchase at Faith & Life Bookstore, or online at www.nmkso.org.

The first rehearsal for the Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus scheduled for this Sunday, January 28, has been cancelled and will now be February 4. Contact Mike Lamb, KMMC Steering Committee President at 316-253-1542 or foursheep@cox.net if you have any questions.

On Tuesday, January 30, 7:00 PM, the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains will kick off a busy season of educational events, first featuring as part of our Winter Lecture Series, "Prairie Fire: A Great Plains History", presented by Julie Courtwright. The lecture will take place via Zoom and participants can register for \$5 at dyckarboretum.square.site/upcoming-events. Join historian, author and teacher Julie Courtwright as she discusses the role of fire – human-caused and natural – in shaping the Great Plains and the lives of its residents. Using newspaper accounts, diary entries and pop culture artifacts, Courtwright explores how fire has benefited and sometimes terrorized humans. She'll give special attention to prairie fires in Central Kansas. Courtwright grew up in the Flint Hills of Kansas. She's an associate professor of history at Iowa State University.

Two volunteers are needed daily to help with Retreat Center HVAC work from Monday to Friday for the next 12 weeks. Construction skills are not a requirement. Contact Camp Mennoscah at 620-297-3290, text 316-293-7313 or email olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org. Board members may also contact you. Sign up today!

Saturday Library Book Sale & Open House: Stop by the Conference Resource Library on Saturday, February 10, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. Browse the book sale, check out what's new for individuals, families, children and more for home and congregational use. Enjoy a hot drink and stories with Bethel College Students.

Western District Conference invites you to a come-and-go Open House on Saturday, February 10, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM, at the WDC office, 2517 North Main Street, North Newton, KS. This is in addition to the WDC Library Open House and Book Sale already announced. Check out what's new in the Resource Library, browse the used-book sale, enjoy refreshments, chat with staff, and celebrate WDC's newly renovated office spaces!