

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, March 24—Palm Sunday

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Luke Unruh
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

### Wednesday, March 27

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 6:45 PM Choir
- 6:45 PM Youth Group
- 7:00 PM Outreach, Missions, and Peace Commission
- 7:00 PM Warkentin Room reserved for Men's Bible study—a devotional Bible study in community. All are welcome to join.

### Thursday, March 28

- 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service—Sanctuary

### Friday, March 29—Good Friday

Church Office closed

### Sunday, March 31—Easter

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Laura Goerzen
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

### Upcoming worship service:

- April 7—Holy Humor Sunday—Pastor Luke Unruh

#### 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)

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

#### Administrative Assistant

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



*Palm Sunday:  
The Way of a Servant*



# First Mennonite Church Newton, KS March 24, 2024

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## Gathering

### Welcome

Chris Weaver, worship leader

### Meditation Music

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor* Setting II  
Amanda Entz, organist

### Call to Worship

Chris Weaver, worship leader

## Listening

### Worship Songs

*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* VT 313  
*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* VT 536

### Children's Time

Pastor Laura Goerzen

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

### Old Testament Reading

Psalm 118:1-2; 19-29  
Chris Weaver

### Prayer for the Offering—Local Mission

Chris Weaver

### New Testament Reading

Mark 11:1-11  
Chris Weaver

### Sermon

*The Way of a Servant*  
Pastor Luke Unruh

### Response Song

*Ride On, Ride On in Majesty* VT 316

### Prayer of the Church

Pastor Laura Goerzen

## Sending

### Sending Song

*When I survey the Wondrous Cross* VT 322

### Announcements and Benediction

Chris Weaver, worship leader

### Postlude

*The Setting of Two Suns*  
Amanda Entz, pianist

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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](http://firstmennonitenewton.org)), on our Facebook page, YouTube, or at our Vimeo site. Recordings of the service will be available afterwards as well. Today, Ryan Koehn, Sarah Koehn and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musician: Amanda Entz. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering. Property Committee: Mason Unruh.*

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**New Hope Shelter dedication and ribbon cutting**—Sunday, April 7, 3:00 PM, 308 S. Meriden, Newton. Come celebrate with us in our new home that will continue to serve those in need for many years to come. After helping people for 19 years, in a few different spots, we finally have our forever home. Following some brief remarks, tours will be given and light refreshments will be served. Please park in the lots north of the property and bring lawn chairs.

**Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus**—Please join KMMC at one or both of our concerts this year: The first is April 7, at Bethel College at 4:00 PM. The second is April 21, Tabor College at 4:00 PM. This year we are including the Newton Children's Community Choir, the Flannelbacks and the Menno Brass.

**All interested singers** are invited to participate in Bethel College's annual Masterworks concert on April 28, featuring Benjamin Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb* and Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem*. Scores are available now and rehearsals begin Tuesday, April 2. Sign up online at <https://forms.gle/Auu4FaYBcaLwKDuF6> so that your contact information is available for digital rehearsal materials, etc., or come to the first rehearsal April 2, 6:00 PM, in the Choir Room in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College.

**Women & Girls Save the Date!** Edimental Gardening for Every Growing Space, featuring Renata Goossen will be sponsored by Western District Women in Mission at Faith Mennonite Church, Newton KS on Friday, April 19. The schedule is: 5:00-6:00 PM. Browse and purchase plants from Renata's Plant Bus. Bring a salad to share for supper to start at 6:00 PM. The evening program, 6:30-7:30 PM, will feature music by Prairie Highway and Renata speaking on her topic of edimental gardening, plants that are both edible and ornamental. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more details about the evening schedule and our other WDWM activities.

**MCC Sale Children's Auction**—Consider donating new, in-the-package, items to this year's auction! Talk with the youth in your church to see what items they would like to bid on, but you can never go wrong with Hot Wheels, Barbie, board games, Lego sets, art kits, and sports equipment. Items may be given to your MCC Liaison for delivery to Sale.

**Senior recital** by Bethel College student **Eli Regier**, saxophone, Friday, April 5 at 7:00 PM, at the Administration Building chapel

**MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton critically low on inventory:** An MCC kit cannot be distributed until each item for the kit is assembled, but some supplies in the Material Resources Center are so low that kits cannot be processed for shipping. You can help by filling the following needs: new infant sleepers (6-12 month sizes); bath towels (dark colored, light to medium weight); laundry soap (such as Fels Naptha or Zote brands); shampoo (20 oz min) and spiral notebooks (70 sheets). Buy online and ship it to MCC or bring items to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30<sup>th</sup> St, North Newton, KS 67117). Questions are always welcome, please contact [brociamueller@mcc.org](mailto:brociamueller@mcc.org) or 316.283.2720. A full list of MCC kit contents can be found at [mcc.org/kits](http://mcc.org/kits).

## Announcements

**The offering for March 31** will be for Camp Mennoscah. 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.

**FMC worship attendance** for March 17—148; Sunday School—112.

**Local Mission offering** for March 3, 10, 17—\$14,582. Online Local Mission—\$5,001.

**Good Friday**—The church office will be closed on Friday, March 29.

**The new updated Yearbooks are in your church mailbox.** If you no longer need the old one, please consider recycling it in the Church Office so that we may reuse the binding off the old books.

**Bring flowers Easter Sunday!** This Easter Sunday, we will pin fresh flowers to the cross during our worship service. We will have fresh carnations available at church for anyone who needs them, but if you have blossoms in your yard, please bring them! The greater the variety of flowers, the more beautiful the cross will become!

**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 2024-2025 school year, you are invited to apply for scholarship funds from FMC. ***By no later than Sunday, April 21, 2024***, 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.

**Visuals for Lent**—The visuals used in the sanctuary hold a significance for the Lenten time leading up to Easter. There are different size footprints (symbolizing our different ages/place in our Christian lives) leading up to the front of the sanctuary. This path of footprints symbolizes the idea that discipleship leads to the cross. The plain burlap cloth reminds us of the sackcloth and ashes an ancient custom of showing humility before God. The black cloth is representative of the meditative/somber atmosphere of Lent. We are encouraged to repent and take one more step (growth in our Christian life) towards the cross.



**THE PLANNING GROUP** is now in the process of complying all the information from the table discussions and survey. We had great participation in both opportunities! Thank you for your willingness to be a part of these ways to listen and understand different viewpoints and stories plus share your beliefs. We will be communicating our next steps as soon as this part is completed. Your continued prayers for discernment of God's leading are appreciated.

**The MCC Run for Relief** will be in Hutchinson on April 13, 2024. We will again be participating in this run and are raising money for MCC. If you would be interested in sponsoring us through a financial donation to Mennonite Central Committee (100% of your donation will go directly to MCC), we would be most grateful. Your donation of any amount will go toward the important work of MCC relief and development work around the world. Visit [mcc.org](http://mcc.org) to learn more. Both cash and check are accepted. Feel free to put your donation in our mailbox at church, or mail it to us at 515 E. 3rd, Newton KS 67114, by April 12. Please make checks payable to *Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale*. We have been so blessed by your donations in previous years and would once again love to raise \$1,000+ for MCC. Thank you for your support and for your prayers for those around the world who benefit from the work of MCC.

~Woody and Nora Miller

**Youth Group Meal and Auction—Wednesday, April 3, 6:00 PM.** Everyone is welcome! We are having a hamburger fry before the auction at 6:00 PM, prepared by the youth and sponsors. The auction begins at 6:45 PM. Next Sunday, we will have a full listing of all auction items in your mailboxes. If you haven't already done so, give information about what you are donating to Carol Entz by this Wednesday, March 27! Bring any auction items to the church office before Tuesday, April 2, or to the Fellowship Hall, no later than 4:00 PM, Wednesday, April 3.

**Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale Pies and Zwieback**—we have been assigned to make pies for the Relief Sale that will take place on April 12-13, at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. They have requested 35 pies from FMC. Information is on the table in the Gathering Area along with the pie pans. We have also been assigned to make 30 dozen Zwieback. Both the pies and Zwieback need to be delivered to the sale on Saturday morning, April 13 at 9:00 AM.

**VBS 2024!** Vacation Bible School is scheduled to be at Shalom Mennonite Church on May 28-31, from 5:20 to 7:30 PM. There will be a joint church service with participating churches on the Bethel College Green on Sunday, June 2, at 10:00 AM, with a potluck to follow. Supper will be served each evening from 5:20-5:45 PM, for children and Leaders/helpers. The curriculum is titled, "Seekers in Sneakers". Registration forms will be available soon!

**FMC CHILDREN'S OFFERING 2024**—Each spring the Nurture Commission is responsible for discerning the Children's Offering, and this year we have elected to assist with the work of Mennonite Mission Network in the Chaco province of Argentina involving the Toba Qom Indigenous people. The work includes introducing bilingual (Toba Qom and Spanish) educational material and teachers into area schools and providing Bible classes, games, and snacks for children every Saturday as well as youth-centric programs on special days such as Children's Day (a Kansas equivalent might be Vacation Bible School). A special project is currently underway to dub the Jesus Film in the Toba Qom language, which will be viewed by many children as well as adults. Offerings to this exciting and impactful ministry, which has aspects relatable to all ages, helps to develop and enhance the programs available to the children.

## SR. HIGH YOUTH



Wednesday, March 27 at 6:45 PM

Youth Group starts at 6:45 PM, in the youth room.

**Creation Care Adult Sunday School Option: April 14 through May 5.** Join Outreach Commission for an intergenerational adult Sunday school option in which we explore topics of hope and gracious sustainability in the midst of climate change.

**Scholarships for Camp Mennoscah Youth Summer Camps!** With the help of the congregation, the FMC Nurture Commission offers a \$100 scholarship to youth from FMC and Casa Betania who plan to attend camp this summer. To request a scholarship for your child/children, please fill out the google form you receive via email or sign up on the forms posted in the Gathering Area. If you are interested in contributing to the scholarship fund, please write a check to FMC with 'Camp Mennoscah Scholarship Fund' in the memo line. For more information, please talk to Sara Rickard.

### Community Announcements

**We will put the dam back in today at 2:00 PM.** Everyone is welcome to help or watch. The process of putting the boards back in is not for young ages due to the ungainly size and weight of the boards, but watching is great! The dam goes back in a couple of weeks before Men and Boys Retreat with the hope of washing out the fishing holes. Be there for the beginning of canoe and kayak fun!

**The Newton Chorale presents: *From Darkness to Light*.** Today at 3:30 PM at Bethel College Mennonite Church. Admission is free. A goodwill offering will be taken. Director, Riley King, will conduct the concert, featuring soprano soloist Megan Taylor-Gilstrap, organist Will Wiebe-Friesen, and accompanied by Meghann Rogers.

**In the spirit of [Mennonite Action](#)** efforts nationwide for the upcoming March Week of Action (March 25-29), the WDC Israel Palestine Task Force and several member churches invite you, family, friends, and allies to join in another public peace witness at Senator Jerry Moran's office in downtown Wichita on Wednesday, March 27, approximately 10:00 AM-12:00 PM (details below). This peace witness will be centered around the theme "Send Aid, Not Bombs!" and asking Senator Moran to call for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza where 31,000+ people have been killed and 500,000+ more are suffering from imminent famine, starvation, and/or injuries. It will include praying and singing hymns together; presenting symbols of aid (bread, water, medicine, quilts, etc.) and the [U.S. Mennonites petition](#) for a permanent ceasefire; and finally making a direct ask for increased humanitarian aid, call for a ceasefire, a release of all the hostages and political prisoners, and an end to funding for weapons of war to Israel. We will meet at Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church, 655 S Lorraine St, Wichita, 10:00 AM, to review an event agenda before driving to a designated rendezvous location near Senator Moran's office. There may be a \$2-3 parking fee. This is a somber event, and we encourage participants to wear black. Organizers will provide a print agenda for the peace witness and we plan to finish by 12 PM. Contact Eva Lapp (574-312-0078), Bob Atchison (785-313-2292), or Kathy Neufeld Dunn (620-755-4331) for questions or to find out more.