

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, April 7

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

### Tuesday, April 9

- 7:00 PM Church Board

### Wednesday, April 10

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 7:00 PM Warkentin Room reserved for Men's Bible study—a devotional Bible study in community. All are welcome to join.

### Sunday, April 14

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—The Twelve Scriptures of FMC—Pastor Luke
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

### Upcoming worship service:

- April 21—Pastor Laura
- Spring Potluck and Congregational Meeting following the worship service

# Holy Humor Sundae

### 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)



# First Mennonite Church Newton, KS April 7, 2024



## Gathering

### Welcome

Casson Schmidt, worship leader

### Introduction to Holy Humor Sunday

Pastor Laura Goerzen

### Gathering Music

*God of Wonders*  
Ben's Band

### Call to Worship

Casson Schmidt, worship leader

## Listening

### Worship Song

*I Looked Up*

### Children's Time

Andrea Regier

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

### Prayer for the Offering—Mennonite Mission Network

Casson Schmidt

### Sacred Art Lesson

Pastor Laura Goerzen

### Scripture Reading

John 20:19-31  
Casson Schmidt

### Sermon

*Saturday Night*  
Pastor Luke Unruh

### Prayer of the Church

Pastor Laura Goerzen

## Sending

### Sending Song

*Take Time to be Funny*

### Announcements and Benediction

Casson Schmidt, worship leader

### Postlude

*This Little Light of Mine*  
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](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 Goertzen Regier, Eric Murphy and Alex Goering are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Ben's Band. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering. Property Committee: Phil Gaertner*

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**MCC invites you to take the challenge:** A month of climate actions for peace! Sign up to get your free calendar with a different climate action you can take each day in April. From learning to praying to advocating, this month of activities will help you take action to address climate change. Join the challenge as an individual, family, church or small group. Sign up today for A Month of Climate Actions for Peace at [mcc.org/month-climate-action-peace!](http://mcc.org/month-climate-action-peace!)

**The Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestra** presents their Spring Classics Concert, Sunday, April 21 at 4 p.m. in Memorial Hall at Bethel College. "Unfinished Journeys" includes works by Beethoven, Schubert, and Mahler with "Songs of a Wayfarer" featuring vocalist Valerie A. Bernhard. 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](http://www.nmkso.org).

**Mental Health First Aid:** Saturday, April 27, 8:30 AM-5:00 PM. Prairie View will conduct a **Mental Health First Aid Training** at Eden Mennonite Church, 401 18th Ave, Moundridge, KS. \$30 covers the training, materials, and lunch. There is space for 30 people. Register online [here](#) by April 19.

**MCC's Sharing With Appalachian People (SWAP)** home repair program is seeking summer staff in Kimball, West Virginia or Elkhorn City, Kentucky. These three-month positions for Job Site Coordinators and Meals Coordinators will allow you to explore new cultures, develop skills, build friendships and live out your faith. Applicants should be at least 19 years old, but the roles are not limited to young adults. An hourly wage plus room and board are provided. For more information and to apply, visit [mcc.org/swap-summer-meals](http://mcc.org/swap-summer-meals) or [mcc.org/swap-summer-job-site](http://mcc.org/swap-summer-job-site). Or contact the MCC Appalachia SWAP office at (606) 634-4418 or [AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org](mailto:AppalachiaAdmin@mcc.org).

**Position Opening**—Mennonite Mission Network is searching for an Executive Assistant (Full-time—In office, Hybrid in Elkhart, Indiana or Newton, Kansas). This role provides comprehensive administrative support to the Executive Director, acting as the primary liaison for internal and external communications and overseeing special projects and executive outreach efforts. If further interested or to apply, you may visit us at [www.MennoniteMission.net/about/Employment](http://www.MennoniteMission.net/about/Employment)

**Bluestem Communities** will host a summer Junior Volunteer program at both Kidron Bethel Village (North Newton) and Schowalter Villa (Hesston) for youth ages 12 to 17. The program runs from June 3 through July 26. Applications must be submitted by May 10. To apply or for more information, contact Haley Hamm at 316-836-4821 or [haleyh@bluestemks.org](mailto:haleyh@bluestemks.org).

**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 WDWDM activities.

## Announcements

**The offering for April 14** 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](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 31—226; Sunday School—138.

**Thanks to everyone who attended and donated** for our youth group auction last Wednesday. It was a huge success with all the creative donations and monetary generosity! The auction brought in \$9,369. This will go a long way in funding our trip to Appalachian Build in Elkhorn City, Kentucky. With grateful hearts for such a supportive church family, FMC Youth Group and sponsors

**The Spring Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday, April 21. 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 will take action to approve the financial audit report and 2023 financial report. ~Ryan Koehn, Church Moderator

*There once was a pious young priest  
Who lived almost wholly on yeast  
He said: "It is plain,  
We must all rise again.  
And I wanted to get started at least."*

## Bulletin Bloopers:

In the bulletin of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Palm Coast, FL: "We will have a Special Holiday Bingo & Dinner on Monday evening, Dec. 30. You will be given two bingo packs, which cover all games played, and your choice of children or roast beef for dinner."  
—via Rev. Frederick R. Parke

From the *Dalton (GA) Daily Citizen News*: "John, ordained as a daemon, will pastor two churches in Fannin County."

From First Mennonite Church, Newton (KS): "Immoral, Invisible, God Only Wise VT 98"

**THE PLANNING GROUP** is now in the process of compiling 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.

**Join the plastic recycling challenge!** Our church is enrolled in the NexTrex Recycling Challenge. Can we collect 1000 pounds of plastic bags and plastic film for recycling in the next year? If we meet that goal, the Trex company will give our church a free outdoor bench made out of recycled plastic! Look for more information in your church mailboxes. Contact Cindy Unruh or Janet Regier with questions, and if you'd like to help!

**The Resource Library books** which were in the Gathering Area have been returned to WDC. If you still have one, please return it to the church library. Thank you.

**Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale**—Please bring any items you are donating to the sale to the church by 2:00 p.m. Friday, April 12th for transportation to the sale. Let us (David or Elena Wiebe) know if you can help take things to the sale. Thank you! **Also a reminder** that we still need volunteers. As of Thursday, April 4, over 400 volunteers are still needed. <https://kansas.mccsale.org/volunteer/>



**The FMC Small Jobs Ministry** aims to connect willing FMC volunteers with people who have a project on their hands (a "small job" is a project that could be accomplished by 3 or fewer people on a Saturday morning). If you enjoy working together to help others on projects, please consider signing up and listing your areas of willingness to work/expertise here. If you have a "small job" in need of assistance, or have any questions, please reach out to Laura Sharp, of Caregiving & Membership Commission (for FMC attendees), or Chris Weaver, of Outreach Commission (for non-attending community members).

**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, 9:00 AM. **There are still plenty of pie pans for pies and bags for Zwieback left on the table.**

**As we plan the creation care Sunday School class**, the Outreach Commission invites stories from those who have installed solar panels on their homes. Please contact David Wiebe, Chris Weaver, Bev Regier or Michael Garcia with your stories. Thank you!

**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.

**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!

**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

**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

**KIPCOR Film Series presents *Estamos Unidos*, today, April 7, at 2:00 PM, Krehbiel Auditorium in Luyken Fine Arts Center.** The film by Alvaro M. Morales follows a migrant caravan's journey from Honduras to Mexico City in 2019. A talkback follows the screening; a freewill offering will be taken to support KIPCOR and the film series.

**New Hope Shelter dedication and ribbon cutting**—Today, 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 today, 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.

**MCC Material Resources Center in North Newton** is critically low on inventory for Relief Kits. **YOU CAN HELP by bringing supplies to the MCC Sale.** There will be carts in the Meadowlark (Quilt Building) to collect your supplies. These are the **needed supplies** to complete kits: new infant sleepers (6-12 month sizes); bath towels (dark colored, light to medium weight); laundry bar soap (such as Fels Naptha or Zote brands); shampoo (20 oz min) and spiral notebooks (70 sheets).