

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, June 30

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service—The Twelve Scriptures of FMC—Pastor Luke

4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

Tuesday, July 2

7:00 PM Nurture Commission Zoom Meeting

Wednesday, July 3

6:30 PM Game Night—FH

7:00 PM Outreach, Mission and Peace Commission

7:00 PM Youth Group

Thursday, July 4

Church Office closed —Independence Day

Friday, July 5

FH/Kitchen reserved all day

Upcoming worship service:

July 7—The Twelve Scriptures of FMC—Pastor Laura



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

June 30, 2024

First Mennonite Church Newton, KS From Rituals to Righteousness

Scripture Reading

Micah 6:1-8

Wendy Schrag

Meditation

From Rituals to Righteousness

Pastor Luke Unruh

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Sending

Sending Song

Where Justice Rolls Down

Announcements and Benediction

Wendy Schrag, worship leader

Postlude

Do it All

Ben's Band

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Gathering

Welcome

Wendy Schrag, worship leader

Meditation Music

Psalm 40: I Patiently Waited for You

Ben's Band

Call to Worship

Wendy Schrag, worship leader

Listening

Song for Worship

God Our Protector

Children's Time

Dana Neff

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

Prayer for the Offering—Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary

Wendy Schrag

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, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Ben's Band. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering. Property Committee: Phil Gaertner.

Kidron Bethel Village will host its annual Fireworks Extravaganza on Thursday, July 4, at 3001 Ivy Dr., North Newton. Arrival may begin at 7:30 p.m., and fireworks will begin at sun-down. Admission is free. This fun family event will feature games, giveaways, and food for purchase. All proceeds benefit the Kidron Bethel Village Health Care Benevolent Fund.

The Live Wire Stringband will perform at 6:30 PM, Friday, July 12, at Kidron Bethel Village's Kidron Hall, 3001 Ivy Dr., North Newton. The Live Wire Stringband is a collection of players with decades of experience performing for audiences throughout the Midwest. They play old time fiddle tunes, gospel and traditional songs on the fiddle, banjo, guitar, mandolin and bass. Enjoy lively tunes that will make you want to move your feet! The concert is free and open to the public. Members of Live Wire Stringband include, Jesse Graber, son of Charles and Diana Graber of Newton, and husband of Ruth Harder, former pastor of Bethel College Mennonite Church (current pastor of Rainbow Mennonite Church in Kansas City; Steve and Gail Goeke, who live in rural Missouri northeast of Kansas City and members of Rainbow Mennonite Church; and Bob and Melissa Atchinson, Manhattan, Kan. Melissa is the pastor of Manhattan Mennonite Church.

Mini Blitz at MCC! Come tie, trim, or bind comforters at the MCC Material Resource Center in North Newton on Friday, July 12 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Saturday, July 13 from 8-2. Bring a snack to share and a sack lunch/supper. Drinks will be provided. Beginners are welcome!

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); [hand towels](#) (dark colored); [bar soap](#); [bath towels](#) (dark colored, light to medium weight); [wide toothed combs](#) (6-8 inches long); [laundry soap](#) (such as Fels Naptha or Zote brands); and [shampoo](#) (20 oz min). Buy online and ship it to MCC or bring items to MCC in North Newton (121 E. 30th St, North Newton, KS 67117). Questions are always welcome, please contact brociamueller@mcc.org or 316-836-5045. A full list of MCC kit contents can be found at mcc.org/kits.

The June edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: The MDS Cabinet Shop celebrates a new warehouse, the Peace Academic Center gets an unexpected boost and a bridge opens access to more than 25 families. Sign up to volunteer this summer and fall. To read more: <https://conta.cc/3RuHArK>

Announcements

The offering for July 7 will be for Mennonite Mission Network. 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: firstmennonite-newton.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 June 9—156; Sunday School—129.

Local Missions Update: Thank you to all who increased your giving for the month of May. We received \$10,975 more than we spent in May. This means that for the year we are now only \$22,572 in the red. Keep up the good work in the coming months. **A note about camp scholarships:** The church has paid for scholarships to camp for our children and now is needing \$850 to cover these scholarships. If you or your Sunday school class is interested in helping take care of this expense, it would be appreciated. May God bless your generosity. Betty Pauls, Treasurer

Check out our new Photography Wall near the Gathering Area (by the water fountain)! Our current theme is Earth Stewardship: Seeing God in the Sky. Come and take a look and enjoy the talent of our very own members - plus God's beautiful creation. In several months, we'll do another all-call for more photos with another complimentary nature verse/theme so be watching for that in the bulletin.

Did you know...that FMC has collected, sorted, and delivered 991 pounds of plastic to be recycled? We have nearly reached our 1000 lb. goal! Please continue bringing your plastic to the recycling bins at church. We will share what we collect with another community group participating in the same program, just as we've benefitted from other groups sharing their collected plastic with us. Thank you to everyone for your participation!

Board Game Night: Nurture Commission will host a board game night the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 PM, in the Fellowship Hall. There will be games provided, but participants are encouraged to bring other games they are excited to play or share! Games will range in difficulty from Uno to Wingspan and beyond! **See you this Wednesday, July 3!**

It's time to renew Anabaptist World magazine. If you would like to renew your subscription or would like to start a new subscription, please fill out the order form that was placed in your church mailbox. Our group subscription cost is \$39. Order forms are due to the church office by **Monday, July 8**. Please make checks payable to First Mennonite Church with *Anabaptist World* in the memo line.

THE CHURCH BOARD has finished our discussions concerning what was learned from the information gathered by the Planning Group and finalized a statement to share with the congregation. Because of summer travel schedules, we were not able to schedule this meeting until **Sunday, July 14, 5:00 PM, in Fellowship Hall**. We will share the Summary Report concerning the table discussions and surveys. Anyone who would like to see the Summary Report will have an opportunity at the meeting. The Church Board has prepared a statement with our decisions regarding the inclusion of LGBTQIA+ persons at FMC based on what was learned in the information gathered by the Planning Group. All are invited to attend this meeting. We ask for your continued prayers as we move forward.
~Janice Good, Church Board Chair

Church Office summer schedule—Starting Friday, June 28, the church office will be closed each Friday for the months of July and August.

Open to new participants. A confidential group of women meets to seek healing and hope as they support each other in the experience of betrayal trauma (a spouse or partner's use of pornography, affair, or sexual addiction). Bimonthly meetings are held Wednesday evenings via Zoom. This group is sponsored by First Mennonite Church of Newton and facilitated by Audrey Ratzlaff, M.Div. Contact Audrey at aaratzlaff@yahoo.com or 316-619-4580 for more information.

WDC ANNUAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED: Church Board invites anyone who would be interested in attending the WDC Annual Assembly, August 2-4, in Beatrice, Nebraska to represent FMC in the business sessions. Conference registration and hotel expenses will be reimbursed by FMC. This is an opportunity to be involved in the decision making and input process from congregations for WDC. If you are interested, please contact Janice Good, Church Board Chair.

Water Wednesdays with SEAK—Sign up in the Gathering area for helping with SEAK on Water Wednesdays, 11:15-12:30 at the playground on Pine Street. Thanks to all who have already signed up! July 10 and 26 still need volunteers. We'd love your help!

Homeless Shelter—Our next week to serve New Hope Homeless Shelter is July 17-23. If you are able to help by volunteering or with meals, contact Lee Penner at 284-2154 or Ruby Moore at 620-837-4876

Community Announcements

Camp Mennoscah—We urgently need 2-3 more kitchen staff for the week of July 7-12 (Junior High II Camp with Derek Klingenberg). David Enns is the head cook. No special skills are needed, just the ability to follow directions and willing hands. Kitchen staff must be at least 18. If you are able to come for part of the week, you are welcome! Contact Olivia at olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org, call 620-297-3290 or text 316-293-7313. You are needed to make this week of camp a good experience for campers and staff alike.

Summer Story Days are BACK! Stop by the WDC Resource library, 2517 N. Main in North Newton, KS on **Saturdays June 29 and July 27 from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM**, for Read Alouds; self-guided, come-and-go activities; and opportunities to learn and grow together! Activities geared for ages 3-8 and their families, but open to all ages. Take advantage of these Saturday hours to tour the library and check out resources.

The MCC Sale Quilter's Corner is looking for donations of quilts, quilt tops, fabric, books, magazines and vintage linens for our next sale. We hope to have an October sale if we receive enough donations. Donations can be dropped off at the MCC Center in North Newton **labeled** for Quilter's Corner or at Stitches Quilt Shop in McPherson. If you have questions, please contact Ann Yoder Smith at 919-604-3282.

Bible classes offered on Hesston College's campus—Lifelong learning is a goal of many individuals. Did you know Hesston encourages community members to enroll in Bible courses? We even have a discounted rate for senior citizen attenders. This coming fall semester we have opportunities to take two Bible classes on campus: Biblical Literature (at two different times) and Missional Leadership on Monday evenings. These classes will only be offered in person this semester. To learn more, visit hesston.edu/bible. If you are interested in enrolling in a course, contact Michele Hershberger at michele.hershberger@hesston.edu.

WDC Annual Assembly: Here are a few of the workshops (in-person, virtual and hybrid) waiting for you at Annual Assembly, many of which reflect on authentic community – MennoMedia Highlights, "Mind the Gap: Adaptive Change in Your Congregation," "Congregational Glimpses into Racial Justice," "WDC Listening Process: What We're Hearing," "Internal to External Communication," a tour of Homestead National Historical Park, and more. Join us at the WDC Annual Assembly, August 2-4, 2024 at First Mennonite Church, Beatrice, NE. Register at mennowdc.org

Save the Date! Western District Women in Mission's annual Women's & Girls' Retreat will be Saturday/Sunday September 7-8 at Camp Mennoscah. The keynote speaker will be Kristine Regehr on the topic of Peaceful Practices. More information and registration info will follow in July. Activities will be available for girls age 5th grade - high school & women of all ages! Come for a time of relaxation, peace, & friendship! Email westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com with questions.

Take a seminary course this fall—Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary's distance-friendly options include Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture; Introduction to Biblical Languages; Reading Cultural Contexts; Spiritual Practices: Prayer and Scripture; Understanding Trauma in Ministry and Peacebuilding; and more. In-person courses are also available. Some courses may be audited. Nonadmitted students get 50% off their first three credit hours! Classes run September 3 – December 13; sign up by August 26. amb.edu/upcoming-courses

Bluestem Communities will host its annual Dementia Forum at 6:30 PM, on Wednesday, July 17, at Kidron Bethel Village's Kidron Hall, 3001 Ivy Dr., North Newton. The event is free and open to the public. Amy Siple, APRN, will present "Understanding Dementia and Caring for Those Who Have It." The forum is beneficial for anyone providing care for someone living with dementia, both professional caregivers and family or friends. One Continuing Education (CE) hour available for \$15. Those wanting the CE must register for it prior to the forum at bluestemks.org/events.

Prayer Notes
June 30, 2024

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7

Pray that we will always let God's peace guide us, taking the road of love, not hatred.

Give thanks that we can bring our anxieties, fears and worries to God who gives us peace beyond our understanding.

Give thanks for Rod Pauls and his ministry with university students in the Southwest.

Pray for Carolyn Miller and her upcoming surgery on July 10 at Wesley Hospital in Wichita.

Pray for those you know that have physical or mental health illnesses.

Pray for the caretakers of elderly, disabled or sick. Give them strength in their service to others. Give them encouragement so that they can encourage others.

Pray for those whose lives and homes have been affected by recent floods or natural disasters. May they see and feel God's presence in first responders and those who volunteer to help rebuild.

Pray for the homeless who are trying to navigate the heat of the summer. May God give them protection, shelter and hope. Give thanks for the volunteers at New Hope Shelter. Pray for the people who's work requires them to be outdoors all summer.

Give thanks for the support groups that meet in our building or are facilitated by FMC. Survivors Support Group, Healing and Hope, NA and many others meet regularly to help work through issues of abuse, betrayal and addictions.

Give thanks for our busy Pastors. Pray that they will have time each day for their personal walk with God to be strengthened and nourished.

Pray for peace in our world.

From MNN: Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Kate Widmer, as she helps extend the community outreach ministries of La Prairie (The Prairie) Mennonite church in France through a café, a bookstore and building relationships in the Muslim neighborhood in which she lives. Pray for renewal of energy and spiritual insight as she pours herself out in service.

From WDC: We are in the middle of the year 2024 and let's pray that the rest of the year, His presence will shine upon us. Let's pray that God will open doors for us and witness the moving of His holy Spirit, whispering to our inner being the desires of God, so that we may arise and move. "Revive your work in the midst of the ages" said Habakkuk. All this we ask as the WDC Church Planting Commission, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen

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!



OUR VISION—Together in Christ: rooted deeply, reaching widely, loving well
OUR MISSION—With Jesus as our center, we are called to be:

- **Faith-Focused**
- **Mission-Minded**
- **Community-Connected**

Have you ever wished you could listen to your favorite worship songs performed by our outstanding FMC bands anytime you want. Now you can by downloading your favorite songs and performances from the new FMC Playlist. This QR code will take you to a site that has 46 songs that you can download and listen to anytime. You can download one or all of the songs. Check back periodically as new songs will be added from time to time.



Happy Birthday!
Nancy Pauls—July 3
Madi Enns—July 5