

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, July 7

9:15 AM Sunday School

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

4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

Tuesday, July 9

7:00 PM Church Board

Upcoming worship service:

July 14—The Twelve Scriptures of FMC—Pastor Laura

5:00 PM—Planning Group and Congregation meeting in FH

July 21—Youth Sunday



First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS
July 7, 2024

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 Living in Christ

Gathering

Welcome

Dana Neff, worship leader

Meditation Music

Abide with Me

Amanda Entz, pianist

Call to Worship

Dana Neff, worship leader

Listening

Songs for Worship

What Is This Place VT 22

We Dream of a Turning VT 209

Children's Time

Shannon Bartel

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

Prayer for the Offering—Mennonite Mission Network

Dana Neff

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Dana Neff

Sermon

Living in Christ

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Song of Response

New Earth, Heavens New VT 377

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Sending

Sending Song

We Are People of God's Peace VT 797

Announcements and Benediction

Dana Neff, worship leader

Postlude

Day is Done

Amanda Entz, organist

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, Kent Erb, Ryan Goertzen-Regier, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Amanda Entz. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering. Property Committee: Kevin Hamm.

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.

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>

Colorado Peaches are coming! The Palisade peaches on the Western Slope are looking to be a good crop once again. Peaches will be available to order from **July 1-31**. Orders can be made by contacting the MCC Central States Office at patsydirksen@mcc.org or calling 316-283-2720. Two sizes are available: **9 lbs. for \$30 and 18 lbs. for \$41**. Payment for peaches in the form of cash or checks is **due by August 1** to MCC. **Checks should be made payable to Beth-El Mennonite Church** with "peaches" in the memo line. Peaches will be available for pickup from the MCC Office, 121 East 30th, North Newton, on Monday, August 19 (**tentative date**). This is a fundraiser for the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale held in Castle Rock, Colorado, October 18-19.

Announcements

The offering for July 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.

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 30—156; Sunday School—126.

Congratulations to Jenson Kingsley and Kendall Michalski who were married on Saturday, July 6. May God grant them many years together.

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.

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 First Mennonite met the NexTrex Recycling Challenge goal? Last week, we turned in the final bags, totaling 1059 pounds in less than 3 months! Thank you to all who helped reach our goal so quickly! Our free Trex bench (Rainforest Canopy color) should arrive in a few weeks. Please continue to drop off your plastic in the bins. What we collect here will be shared with Whitestone Mennonite and Faith Mennonite churches, to help them reach their goals.

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

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.

August Intergenerational Sunday School! There will be no children's Sunday school during the month of August. Instead, there will be intergenerational activities for all ages during the Sunday School hour:

- August 4 – Coffee, Coloring, and Kool-aid
- August 11 – Board games
- August 18 – Nature/Prayer Walk (meeting location TBD)
- August 25 – Stay tuned!

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

Summer Story Days are BACK! Stop by the WDC Resource library, 2517 N. Main in North Newton, KS on **Saturday, 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. ambs.edu/upcoming-courses

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!

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.