

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, November 3—Daylight Saving Time Ends

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—*Breaking Down Barriers*—Mark 7:1-30—Chris Weaver
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

Tuesday, November 5

- 6:30 PM Nurture Commission—Warkentin Room

Wednesday, November 6—Community Night

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 5:45 PM Supper—FH
- 6:45 PM Board Game Night
- 6:45 PM Youth Group
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study—Warkentin Room

Sunday, November 10

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—*Hearing Ears & Seeing Eyes*—Mark 7:31-8:26—
Pastor Laura; Child Dedication
- 11:30 AM Potluck and Congregational Meeting—FH
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

Upcoming worship service:

Sunday, November 17—Pastor Luke



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
November 3, 2024

First Mennonite Church Newton, KS

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Gathering

Welcome

Dana Neff, worship leader

Meditation Music

Jyl Ewy

Call to Worship

Dana Neff, worship leader

Listening

Songs for Worship

Build My Life

Good, Good Father

Children's Time

Sara Rickard

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

Prayer for the Offering

Mennonite Central Committee

Dana Neff

Scripture Reading

Mark 7:1-30

Dana Neff

Sermon

Breaking Down Barriers

Chris Weaver

Response Song

Living Hope

Prayer of the Church

Dana Neff, worship leader

Sending

Sending Song

The Lord Almighty Reigns

Announcements and Benediction

Dana Neff, worship leader

Postlude

The God of Abraham Praise

Jyl Ewy

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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), on our Facebook page, YouTube, or at our Vimeo site. Recordings of the service will be available afterwards as well. Today, Ryan Koehn, Eric Murphy, and Brian Kennell are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Joey Menninga, Jyl Ewy, Joan Entz Visuals: Carol Goering. Property Committee: Phil Gaertner

There will be a reception with the artist Thursday, November 7, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Gallery hours are 9:00 AM—4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, and admission is free.

The 2024-25 Prairie Window Concert Series welcomes back *Damn Tall Buildings* on Sunday, November 17, at 4:00 PM, at the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston. Join us for an evening of great music & delicious food from Crust & Crumb in a prairie garden setting. Purchase tickets online at dyckarboretum.org or call 620-327-8127 to reserve your seats.

Prairie Lights at Dyck Arboretum—The first of two weekends of Prairie Lights will kick off the holiday season November 29, 30 and December 1 from 5:30 to 8:00 PM, each night. Experience the quiet beauty of Kansas in winter while observing tens of thousands of twinkle lights adorning the arboretum path and illuminating the grounds. For tickets visit dyckarboretum.org/events.

Mark your calendars for Anabaptism at Five Hundred: Hymn Festival on Sunday, January 19, 2025, 3:00 PM, at Hesston Mennonite Church. Hosted by the Hesston College Music Department, this event will also celebrate the release of the *Anabaptist Community Bible*. The Hymn Festival coincides with the 500th anniversary of the first Anabaptist adult baptisms that took place in Zurich, Switzerland in 1525. More information to follow in area bulletins and at hesston.edu/music.

MCC Borderlands Peace Camp, Jan. 19-25, 2025 Young adults, ages 18-30, are invited to join MCC in El Paso, TX and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico in January! This MCC Peace Camp will explore topics of peace and justice through the lens of migration, including the Biblical mandate of hospitality. Find out more and register by January 5 at mcc.org/borderlands-peace-camp.

Serving And Learning Together (SALT) applications now open for 2025! Each year, MCC offers 80+ unique opportunities to serve with our local partners working for relief, development and peace around the world. Explore the numerous possibilities that match your passions, skills, and experience. If you're between the ages of 18-30, the SALT program might be the epic adventure you've been waiting for. Check it out at mcc.org/salt!

Can a Book of Stories Bring Peace to Palestine and Israel? Western District Conference (MC USA) Israel-Palestine Task Force invites you to join us for a book discussion group on February 25, 2025 at 7:00 PM, held on Zoom. We will be reading *Apeirogon* by Colum McCann. An apeirogon is a polygon with an observably infinite number of sides. McCann is an award winning author who writes a book of tiny chapters, each one a breath, a feeling, a story. The book is based on the real life experiences of two friends, an Israeli who opposes the occupation and a Palestinian who studies the Holocaust. They meet in a parent grief support group, as both have tragically lost their daughters. Their raw stories and their ardent peace work buoy the heart as the book takes us on a journey through love, loss, reflection, and hope. As you read the book, note the artful connections between the stories and the theme of ending the occupation in Palestine. What stories of peace do you tell? We will take time in our discussion to reflect on the book's stories and our own. To register, email wdc@mennowdc.org, and a Zoom link will be sent out.

Announcements

The offering for November 10 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 October 27—141; Sunday School—111.

Local Mission offering for October 20 and 27—\$6,880; Local Mission online—\$4,420.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the MCC Returning Citizen Care Kits that we assembled last Wednesday night. We appreciate all the items to fill the backpacks and all the money donated. Thanks to the Jr. High group for doing an extra run during the evening to shop. Thanks to all the children and their parents who helped fill the packs in a scavenger hunt. We completed 24 backpacks and had additional items to donate to the MCC center as they continue to make these care gifts to people who are returning to society after serving time in prison. Thank you kindly.

~First Mennonite and Casa Betania Youth Group

The Fall Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 10. 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 take action on the 2025 budget and ballot for commissions, committees, and board positions. ~Ryan Koehn, Church Moderator

Carry-in lunch before the Congregational Meeting—Please bring a fully cooked dish or two to share. Food can be dropped off in the kitchen before Sunday School. You are invited to bring your own table ware.

Please pray for Adela of Casa Betania whose young adult son passed away unexpectedly. Adela is a sister of Olga and Arturo and was with us for our church retreat at Camp Mennoscah. If you would like help Casa Betania support the family's funeral expenses, you can make checks out to Casa Betania.

Join us for Wednesday Community Night!

A meal will be served from 5:45-6:30 PM.

A short time of singing will take place at 6:30 PM, followed by an intergenerational activity for all that will end by 7:30 PM.

THIS WEEK! (November 6) - Board Game Night

All are welcome to attend!

Meal provided by Living Stones Sunday school class

Pizza, Salad and Cookies

Nov. 13 - Mission Field Updates from Schyler, Josh and Eli

Nov. 20 - Youth Group Turkey Dinner Fundraiser

Peace Pod will meet this Tuesday, November 5 at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. We will be tying comforters and would also accept other handy work. Come and enjoy the fellowship!

Harvest of Love—Throughout November and December, the Salvation Army invites you to join in their annual food and fund drive to support people in need in our county. Items always needed are canned tuna, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti sauce, hamburger helper, tuna helper, cereal (of any kind), peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, and soups. Boxes are available in the Gathering Area and inside the west entrance to collect nonperishable items. If you wish to make a monetary donation you may write a check to "Harvest of Love" and place it in the offering. Every donation is a gift that makes a difference in our neighbors' lives!

Save the Date! Youth Group Turkey Dinner, Wednesday, November 20, 5:30-7:00 PM, in Fellowship Hall. Menu: roast turkey, mashed potatoes and turkey gravy, cranberry salad, corn, homemade rolls, and pumpkin dessert. There will be some alternative foods for those with food sensitivities. Carry-out meals will also be available while the serving line is open. Proceeds will go mainly to Youth Group's summer mission trip.

Our church kitchen is in need of containers with lids! These are used for packing left-overs or storing in the refrigerators. **We can use a variety of sizes but they need to have lids!** If you have some extras we would take them before you recycle. We have many orphan lids with no bottoms.

Books from WDC Library are available to check out: The Caregiving Commission has gathered books from the Western District Library which are available in the display case near the office door. Some of the titles include "God's Tapestry", "Making Peace With Change", "Facing Feelings in Faith Communities" and more. This is just a way to care for our congregation through reading and studying. Please sign the checkout page provided and return the books to the display case after 1-2 weeks. All books need to be back by October 27.

Did you find a puzzle piece in your pocket or in the stuff you unpacked from the FMC retreat last weekend? Don't throw it away, it still has a home in our community puzzle— if you have one, just put it in Daryl and Cindy Unruh's mailbox at church. We would like to complete the puzzle! Thank you!

Community Announcements

The 2024-25 Prairie Window Concert Series continues with Flagship Romance on Sunday, November 3, 4:00 PM, at the Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in Hesston. Join us for an evening of great music and delicious food from Crust & Crumb in a prairie garden setting. Purchase tickets online at dyckarboretum.org or call 620-327-8127 to reserve your seats.

Volunteers needed--come enjoy the cooler weather! Volunteers for the HVAC work at the Retreat Center are welcome Monday - Friday. A lack of construction skills should not keep you from helping out with this project. Willing hands are what is needed! Let us know when you are available, so we can prepare for you. For anyone interested in working on a weekend, two weeks notice is needed. Contact Isaac—316-217-5626 to sign up.

Looking for an Advent study? Check out all the great study options through the WDC Resource library. We have individual and group studies in print, the Book Bundles program, DVDs, and access to digital streaming options through StudyGateway. Check out the library catalog at mennowdc.org/library or contact Jennie for access to StudyGateway at crlib@mennowdc.org

Sing along....All are invited to attend an hour long Community Hymn Sing led by Dr. William Eash, Professor Emeritus of Music, Bethel College. This event will be held at Eden Mennonite Church (401 18th Ave, Moundridge), Sunday afternoon, November 10, at 4:00 PM. Be prepared to request your favorite hymn and a brief story, why it is a favorite. Refreshments served after singing.

Start tapping shoulders and thinking about the 2025 summer. Camp Mennoscah will be recruiting for summer staff (along with other camps) at Hesston, Tabor and Bethel Colleges from November 11-13, respectively. There will be a pizza meal on November 13 at a location and time yet to be determined for interested applicants. (The application is not yet open.)

Live at a distance? Wish you could read larger print? Want a good audiobook that will help you grow in faith? Wish you could access the library from your phone? The WDC Resource Library has something new just for you! **Launching November 1, you can borrow ebooks and audiobooks from the Resource Library!** See more at mennowdc.org/library or contact the library at crlib@mennowdc.org

An exhibit featuring the work of Katie Petersen will be featured in the Regier-Friesen Gallery located in Hesston College's Laban Peachey Center (325 S. College Dr., Hesston) from November 1 to 24. Katie is an art professor at Sterling College in Sterling, Kansas.