

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, February 2

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service—*Anabaptism at 500: Renewal Through Trust and Yieldedness*—Pastor Laura

4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

### Tuesday, February 4

6:30 PM Nurture Commission—by Zoom

7:00 PM Peace Pod—FH

### Wednesday, February 5

10:00 AM Staff meeting

6:30 PM Youth Group—FH

6:30 PM Board Game Night—Room 125

7:00 PM Warkentin Rm. Reserved, Men's Bible Study

### Sunday, February 9

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service—*Anabaptism at 500: Renewal Through Peacemaking and The Sermon on the Mount*—Pastor Luke. Sharing from Schyler Entz and Josh Kennell

4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

### Upcoming worship service:

Sunday, February 16—Guest Speaker from MDS, Kevin King



*at* FIVE  
— HUNDRED

First Mennonite Church  
Newton, KS  
February 2, 2025

### 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)



# Renewal Through Yieldedness

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## Gathering

### Welcome

Dana Neff, worship leader

### Musical Call to Worship

*Holy Lord*  
Ben's Band

### Opening Prayer

Dana Neff

## Listening

### Song for worship

*Psalm 16: I Will Not Be Shaken*

### 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

Jeremiah 17:5-10  
Matthew 18:1-5  
Dana Neff

### Reflections on Anabaptism

Erin and Tyler Johnson

### Biblical Reflections

*Renewal Through Yieldedness*  
Pastor Laura Goerzen

### Prayer of the Church

Pastor Luke Unruh

## Sending

### Sending Song

*I Will Always Bless the Lord*

### Announcements and Benediction

Dana Neff

### Postlude

*The Lorica*

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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, Kent Erb, Ryan Goertzen-Regier, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Ben's Band. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering. Property Committee: Rod Wedel.*

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ary 27, in the Chapel of the Administration Building on the Bethel campus. Community members may Audit the course for \$100 (or \$50 for persons age 65+), or enroll for credit at a higher fee. To request the enrollment form, email [registrar@bethelks.edu](mailto:registrar@bethelks.edu) or visit the Registrar's Office in the Administration Building between 8:00 AM-12:00 PM, or 1:00-5:00 PM. Bethel College is located at 300 E. 27th Street, North Newton, KS.

**Come join the fun at 17th annual MCC Comforter Blitz** on March 3, 4 and 5 at the Journey Facilities Building behind Charis Community Church, (3605 E. Long View Rd, Haven, KS) near Yoder, KS. Monday—9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Tuesday—9:00 AM-9:00 PM, and Wednesday— 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. Note the hours are extended on Tuesday. No sewing skills are required! Lunch is available by donation each day, or you may bring your own sack lunch. Snacks are welcome to share during the workday. This event is hosted by Kansas Friends of MCC. Find out more at [mcc.org/comforter-blitz](http://mcc.org/comforter-blitz) or call 316-283-2720 or email [brociamueller@mcc.org](mailto:brociamueller@mcc.org).

**Register now for the 500 Years of Anabaptism & Swiss Alps Tour, May 21-31, 2025.** Sites: The Swiss Alps, Swiss Mennonite sites, & the 500 Year Celebration in Zurich on May 29. Preview the tour at [www.tourwithweldon.com](http://www.tourwithweldon.com). For information & registration details contact Weldon Martens at [weldon.martens@gmail.com](mailto:weldon.martens@gmail.com) or 402-202-9276.

**The application for 2025 Summer Staff is open.** Staff positions are needed for nature, office, music, lifeguards, crafts and grounds/maintenance. Further information available on the Camp Mennoscah webpage under Programs/Summer Youth Camps or contact 620-297-3290.

**The January edition of *On the Level*** is now available. In this edition, an update on the MDS response to the LA Wildfires, a new job opportunity with MDS, plus all the details for the upcoming MDS 75th Anniversary Celebration. To read more: <https://conta.cc/40gJGz2>

**Coming in March!** Hesston College Theatre to present “Urinetown” March 5 through 9 This three-time Tony award winning musical is set in a Gotham-like city facing a severe water shortage due to a 20-year drought. The government has imposed a ban on private toilets, forcing citizens to pay a corrupt corporation for access to public restrooms. While this may sound like super serious stuff, Urinetown uses satire, comical characters and even makes fun of the musical genre itself to tell the story of a hero who, fed up with the whole stinking system, plans a revolution to restore freedom to the people. Filled with excellent music, dancing and hilarious dialogue, come spend an evening with us in Urinetown. Tickets can be purchased now at the Hesston College Bookstore or by calling 620-327-8104.

## Announcements

**The offering for February 9** will be for Local Missions. 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 January 26—147, Sunday School—118.

**Local Mission for the month of January**—\$27,842. Online Local Mission was \$7,436.

**Cooperative games are now available for check out in the library!** We just added 100+ new resources, including games (ages 2 - adult), board books, picture books, junior books, fiction, and non-fiction. Browse the library catalog under the Resources tab on the church website or here: [www.librarycat.org/lib/FirstMennonite](http://www.librarycat.org/lib/FirstMennonite)

**Join Mennonite Action’s Winter Term Peace School:** This February, Mennonite Action will be holding weekly online trainings on Tuesday evenings at 8pm ET / 5pm PT. This training series will provide you with the concrete skills you need to organize in your local community around Mennonite Action’s two major areas of focus: changing the “common sense” around western support for the genocide and occupation of Palestine, and publicly demonstrating an alternative to the Trump administration’s Christian nationalist ideology. The first training starts THIS week, February 4! Contact Pastor Laura if you would like the link to participate individually, or if you would like to be part of a study group at FMC.

**Peace Pod meeting** this Tuesday evening, 7:00 PM. Come join us for fellowship and to knit, crochet, tie a comforter, or any project you are working on.

**The next quarter Sunday School materials** are here. You can find the material on the table in the Gathering Area.

**Board Game Night:** Nurture Commission will host a board game night this Wednesday at 6:30 PM, Room 125. 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, February 5 in Room 125!**

## For Your Prayers

**We pray for Kevin Miller** as he recovers from triple bypass heart surgery at Wesley.

**We pray for the sister** of Ida Kabagambe. Ida's sister is gravely ill and Ida requests prayer from her friends at FMC.

**We pray for our brothers and sisters** of Casa Betania. Protect their families, calm their fears, and show us how to offer meaningful care, advocacy, and support.

**We pray for the visa process** for Alva and Mario, who have been called to serve as pastors for Casa Betania. Alva and Mario are daughter and son-in-law to Fernando and Rebecca, who attended FMC and served as transitional pastors for Casa Betania throughout 2023.

**WDC**—Pray for WDC congregations supporting immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees, as they seek justice and safety in the face of threat and fear.

**MMN**—Would you like to help Mennonite youth learn more about their Anabaptist heritage? There are still two weeks to register for Mennonite Mission Network's Youth Venture "Anabaptism at 500: Looking Back to See the Future" trip this summer. Pray that the next generation of Mennonite leaders will be shaped by the rich diversity of the global Mennonite church during this once-in-a-lifetime encounter in Germany and Switzerland.

## Community Announcements

**Prairie Window Concert**—Join Dyck Arboretum today, at 4:00PM, to hear the duo Moors and McCumber. James Moors and Kort McCumber create that rare chemistry that happens when two gifted singer-songwriters and multi-instrumentalists perfectly complement each other's strengths, a modern day version of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young. Fan favorite, Crust & Crumb, will serve their delicious food items during intermission. For tickets visit [dyckarboretum.org/events](https://dyckarboretum.org/events).

**WANTED:** Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, Campers, Tractors, Farm Machinery and anything of value to be sold at this year's Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale. Your donations can be used as a Charitable Tax Donation. Call Jerry Toews, 620-367-8257 for more information.

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**The Great Winter Warm-Up is back!** Spread warmth around the world this winter by helping MCC reach a goal of 7000 comforters by the end of March. You can sponsor, donate one (or more!) comforters, or attend a comforter event to tie in community with others! If you host an event in your home, church or community please let [tinaschrag@mcc.org](mailto:tinaschrag@mcc.org) know about it (we've got some small gifts for those who host events!). Check [mcc.org/great-winter-warm-up](https://mcc.org/great-winter-warm-up) for instructions, coloring pages for kids and more!

**Those planning to make quilts** for the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale note that quilts need to be turned in for the auction by February 14, 2025. This is three weeks earlier than previous years. Quilts can be brought to the North Newton MCC Resource Center. The KMRS Quilt Committee appreciates all the work that goes into your contributions!

**Save the date—Roots of Justice**, on behalf of Newton Community for Racial Justice, will take place on Thursday, February 13 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM, Friday, February 14 from 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM, and Saturday, February 15 from 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Early bird registration is until January 3—\$300 per participant. Regular registration (after January 3) will be \$350. Stay tuned for the registration link and more details.

**Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS)** is hosting a [75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Celebration](#) in Wichita, Kansas this February. Part of the celebration, we will be hosting a volleyball tournament and cornhole tournament! The tournaments will be held Saturday, February 15, at Ridgepoint church in Wichita, KS. The cornhole tournament will start at 1:00 PM, and the volleyball tournament will go from 5:00-8:00 PM. We are looking for local teams or individuals to join the fun! There will be prizes for both tournaments. For the volleyball tournament there will also be free t-shirts and a light dinner. We are inviting anyone to register to play. If you are interested in registering a team or as an individual, please let Kaelan Swartley know by January 27, by calling 717-929-4172.

**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 *Apeirogen* 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](mailto:wdc@mennowdc.org), and a Zoom link will be sent out.

**The Mennonite Central Committee Central States** board will hold its annual meeting on Saturday, March 1, 2:00-3:30 PM, at MCC Central States in North Newton, KS. All are welcome to attend.

**Bethel College will offer a new course, *Introduction to Hymnology***, in Spring 2025, taught by Dr. Henry S. Waters, Director of Choral Music and Associate Professor of Music. The course will survey the history of hymns, mostly from the hymnal *Voices Together*, and analyze hymns through many lenses including music theory, poetry and theology. The class will meet weekly on Mondays at 6:00-7:00 PM, beginning Monday, Janu-