

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 9

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service— Sharing from Schyler Entz and Josh Kennell
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

Monday, February 10

- 6:30-8:30 PM Kevin Miller's visitation—FH

Tuesday, February 11

- 11:00 AM Kevin Miller's memorial service and lunch following
- 7:00 PM Church Board

Wednesday, February 12

- 6:30 PM Youth Group—FH
- 7:00 PM Warkentin Rm. Reserved, Men's Bible Study

Sunday, February 16

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—Guest Speaker from MDS, Kevin King
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

Upcoming worship service:

- Sunday, February 23—Back to the Gospel of Mark—Pastor Luke



at **FIVE
HUNDRED**

First Mennonite Church
Newton, KS
February 9, 2025

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



Reflections from Mennonite Voluntary Service

Gathering

Welcome

John Good, worship leader

Musical Call to Worship

How Can I Keep From Singing?

Amanda Rempel

Call to Worship

John Good

Listening

Song for worship

Take My Life and Let It Be VT 759

How Can We Be Silent VT 790

Children's Time

Nick Sharp

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

Prayer for the Offering

Local Mission

John Good

Scripture Reading

Mark 9:33-37

John Good

Reflections on Anabaptism

Alesha Miller

Reflections from Mennonite Voluntary Service

Schyler Entz

Joshua Kennell

Response Song

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant VT 778

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Sending

Sending Song

O Thou In Whose Presence VT 600

Announcements and Benediction

John Good

Postlude

Grant us thy peace

Amanda Rempel

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, Joey Menninga, Brian Kennell, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Wendy Funk Schrag, chorister; Amanda Rempel, organ. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering. Property Committee: Mason Unruh.

Save the Date! Western District Women in Mission invites women & girls to our annual potluck salad supper on Monday, April 28 at 6 p.m. at the Tabor Mennonite Church, rural Newton. The theme is "For the Beauty of the Earth" presented by WDWM executive committee member and Kansas City floral designer, Becca Schrag. Bring a salad to share and a small vessel to make a floral design in - a tea cup, bowl, or small vase. This is a free event with an offering taken to help cover expenses. RSVP not required but appreciated by emailing westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com.

The Camp Mennoscah hoodies are expected to arrive approximately mid-February. You will be contacted for payment and for shipping or pick up details. We can't wait to see everyone in their new hoodies!

Exciting Summer Internship Opportunities with MCC! Mennonite Central Committee is offering exciting **2025 summer internship opportunities** designed to provide hands-on experience while making a meaningful impact. Over the course of **10–12 weeks**, interns will gain valuable skills, explore their interests, and contribute to meaningful projects in areas like human resources, historical exhibit development, immigration, climate communications, global service learning, and the sewing room. This is a unique opportunity to grow professionally while engaging in work that matters. Don't miss out—learn more and apply today!

DO YOU KNOW A YOUNG ADULT READY FOR AN ADVENTURE IN Service--MCC's SALT program offers a year-long, cross-cultural experience for those aged 18-30, where they can immerse themselves in a new culture, serve in a meaningful way and gain valuable skills. Best of all, there's no cost to participate! Encourage them to explore this unique opportunity and apply by February 15, 2025 Learn more at mcc.org/SALT.

CANNER JOB OPENING—Do you know a hands-on person looking for a unique opportunity? MCC is seeking two Canner Operators for its mobile meat canner beginning the Fall 2025 Canning season. The Canner operates from October through April by traveling to 30 different locations in the U.S. preserving hundreds of thousands of cans of beef, turkey, chicken and pork for communities in need across the globe. Canner responsibilities including operating steam and pressure vessels, coordinating volunteers, maintaining and communicating USDA regulations, and the maintenance of all machinery in the canning process. MCC is accepting applications until March 3rd by completing an online form by contacting marilyn timers@mcc.org, or by calling 1-888-563-4676.

Young adult Peace Camp, Akron, PA March 10-15 "If we are silent, then these stones will cry out!" (Luke 19:40). Are you a young adult (ages 18-30) concerned about the global threats of climate change and forced migration, and eager to join a collective cry for positive change? Register now for the [Stones cry out Peace Camp](#). MCC covers all costs of travel, lodging and meals beyond the \$250 registration fee. Together, participants will delve into alternative visions for a society rooted in hospitality and **share these powerful messages in person** with members of Congress on a day trip to Washington, D.C.

Announcements

The offering for February 16 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.

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 February 2—155; Sunday School—124.

In sympathy—Kevin Miller (69) passed away on Monday, February 3. Kevin's service will be held on Tuesday, February 11, at 11:00 AM here at FMC. We extend our condolences to Carolyn, June, Jason, and their families.

Thank you for your prayers and acts of kindness after the passing of Dewayne. They have been much appreciated. ~The Pauls Family.

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

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 started last week. 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.

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

For Your Prayers

We pray for Carolyn Miller, her family, and all who love them, as they grieve the lost of Kevin.

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

We give thanks for the safe arrival of Kevin and Renee Hamm's newest grandson! Sutton Wayne Duerksen was born to Kevin and Renee's daughter Ashlynn and her husband Trevor Duerksen on Thursday, January 30.

WDC—Pray for WDC's Gifts Discernment Committee as it discerns nominees for elected positions in WDC, and for those who are called by the Spirit to offer their gifts and leadership in our conference's ministry.

MMN—Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for Kate Widmer, who is part of a team that works alongside the residents of a low-income area in eastern France, through the outreach programs of The Prairie Church of Montbéliard. Pray for her and the neighbors she relates to through sewing classes, a bookstore and café, and mentoring young people.

Community Announcements

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.

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 [75th 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 *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 wcd@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.

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 or call 316-283-2720 or email brociamueller@mcc.org.

Camp Mennoscah - The Spring Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat is March 14-16. Online registration is open! All activities will take place at Main Camp in the dining hall and bunkhouses.

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. For information & registration details contact Weldon Martens at weldon.martens@gmail.com or 402-202-9276.

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.