

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 30

9:15 AM Sunday School—no Sunday school for Beginners—Jr. High
10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Luke—*The Beginning of the End*; Mark 13:1-8
4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

Tuesday, April 1

6:30 PM Nurture Commission—Warkentin Room
7:00 PM Peace Pod—FH

Wednesday, April 2

10:00 AM Staff Meeting
5:30 PM Supper
6:30 PM Children's Singing
6:45 PM Pysanky eggs with Janet Regier
7:00 PM Warkentin Room Reserved, Men's Bible Study

Sunday, April 6

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Laura—Preparations for the Passion,
Mark 14:1-26
4:00 PM Casa Betania Service
4:00 PM Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus—Tabor College

Upcoming worship service:

Sunday, April 13—Palm Sunday—Pastor Laura—The Trials of Jesus and the Disciples
Mark 14:27-15:15

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

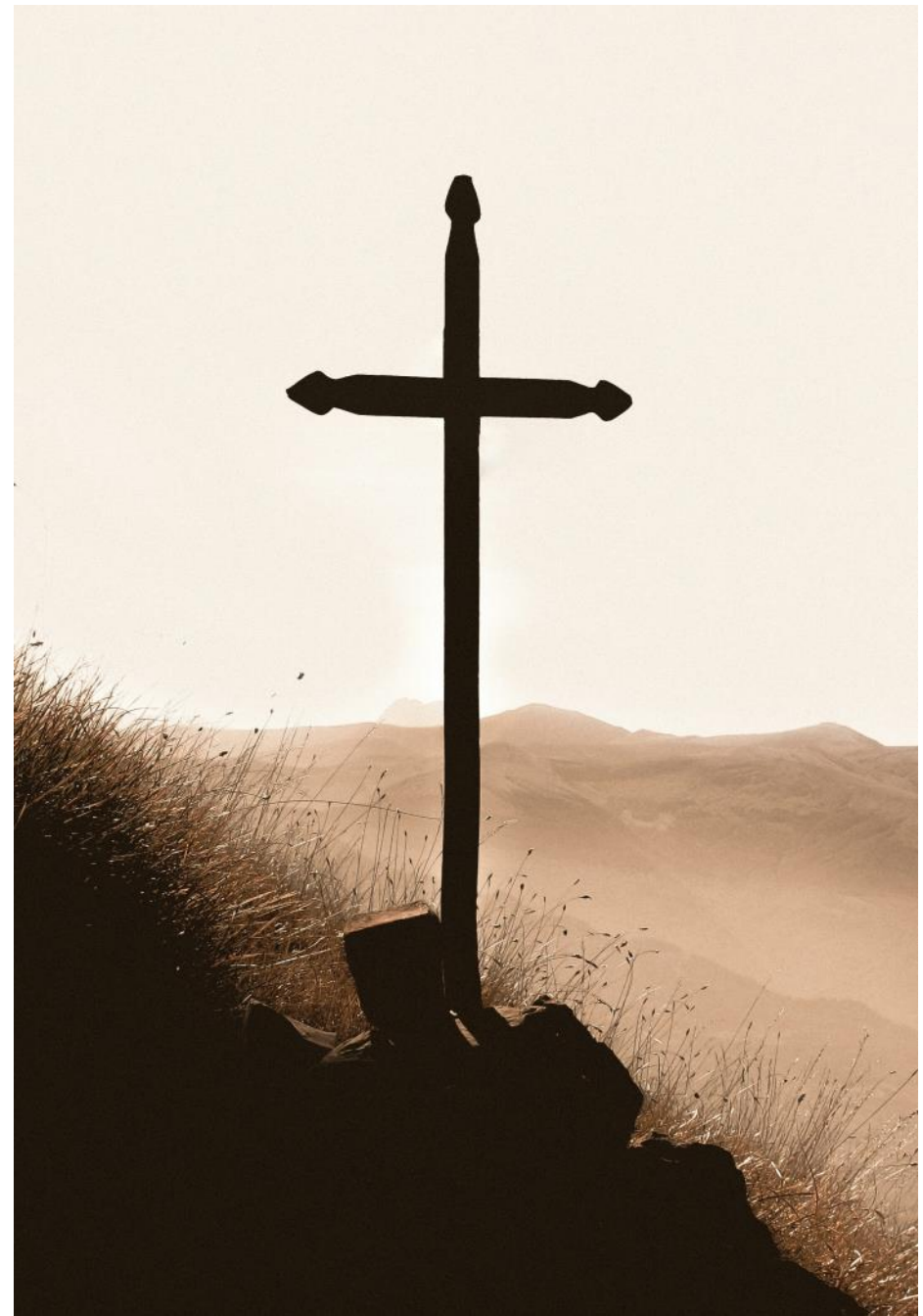
Laura Goerzen, Pastor—620-386-0518; laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org

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



Mark Part 2: Journey to the Cross

The Beginning of the End

March 30, 2025

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Gathering

Welcome

Peter Miller, worship leader

Gathering Music

Jyl Ewy

Call to Worship

Peter Miller, worship leader

Listening

Songs for worship

Come, Now is the Time to Worship VT 29
Blessed Assurance VT 435

Children's Time

Lee Penner

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

Prayer for the Offering

Camp Mennoscah
Peter Miller

Scripture Reading

Mark 13:1-8
Peter Miller

Sermon

The Beginning of the End
Pastor Luke Unruh

Response Song

The Joy of the Lord

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Luke Unruh

Sending

Sending Song

Not Be Shaken

Announcements and Benediction

Peter Miller

Postlude

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, Brian Kennell, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Jyl Ewy, Joan Entz. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering. Property Committee: Brent Voran.

MMN has a new position open—Regional Director for Latin America. Available for hybrid, in-office (Newton or Elkhart) or remote work. Anyone who may be qualified and interested, can find our job openings through our website at www.mennonitemission.net/employment.

Save the Date for the Kids Meet Christ Launch Events! Western District Conference invites you to celebrate and learn more about the new grant-funded worship initiative Kids Meet Christ on Saturday, May 3, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at First Mennonite Church, Newton, KS both in-person or virtually or Saturday, May 17 in Dallas, TX (exact time/location TBD). Come join the conversation about reimagining worship to fully engage children. In-person participants will be the first to receive a kit of ready-to-use materials for children in worship! This is for anyone! (worship leaders, pastors, Sunday school teachers, anyone who is passionate about children). These events will both be bilingual in English and Spanish.

Men & Boys Retreat is April 4-6, 2025, at Camp Mennoscah! Claim a place to sleep in the cabins, bunkhouses, or sleep in your own tent under the stars. Meals can be purchased for Saturday night, Sunday morning, and Sunday lunch. Online registration is available. Contact Kevin at 316-322-5515 for more information.

Camp Mennoscah is looking for kitchen helpers and other volunteers to make great camp experiences. Parents can receive a camper discount up to full camp fees as a kitchen volunteer. Contact Olivia at Olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org or 316-293-7313.

Western District Women in Mission (WDWM) invites women and girls to their annual potluck salad supper on Monday, April 28, 6:00 PM, at the Tabor Mennonite Church. Our theme is "For the Beauty of the Earth." After the potluck & a meditation on God's creation, Rebecca Schrag will lead a floral design workshop with flowers provided by Firebranch Farm & other sources. Each participant will make a small bouquet to take home. RSVP appreciated and required by **April 15** at our website link: www.westerndistrictwomeninmission.org/events-1

Please bring:

- * a salad to share (table service will be provided)
- * a small vessel to make a bouquet (a tea cup is ideal)
- * several flowers from your garden if you have them to share
- * a kitchen or garden shear if you have one

An offering will be taken to help cover expenses.

Questions: Email westerndistrictwomen@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is seeking a Part-Time Administrative Assistant to provide administrative support to MDS Region 3 and Units within the region. Responsibilities include providing administrative support for the units, the Regional Board Chair (RBC) and Regional Operations Coordinator, including travel, budgets, coordinating and scheduling calls and meetings. Assist the RBC in planning, preparation, agenda setting, board meetings coordination and more. This is a regional remote position and requires the successful candidate to reside in MDS Region 3 (Plains States), (Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Wyoming). The complete job description and application are available on our website at mds.org.

Announcements

The offering for April 6, 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: 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 March 16—132; Sunday school—107.

The Spring Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 13. 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 will take action to approve the financial audit report, 2024 financial report, a new term for Pastor Luke, & a proposal from the Long-Term Facility Planning Committee. ~Ryan Koehn, Church Moderator

Take a moment to enjoy our new Creation Care photo wall near the Gathering Area based on Luke 12:22-24. Thanks to all our FMC contributors!

Come and See—take a look at the display on the Communion table. There is a gathering of symbols from the book of Mark. Come to the front of the church and see how many of the symbols and colors you can recognize from the stories in the gospel of Mark.

The new updated Yearbooks are in your church mailbox. If you no longer need the old one, please consider recycling it to the Church Office so that we may reuse the binding off the old books.

Peace Pod will meet this Tuesday, April 1, 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Crocheting, knitting, quilting or any other handiwork is welcome. Enjoy the fellowship!

Each year, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, known locally as NAMI Kansas, brings together hundreds of people to raise mental health awareness and funds through NAMI-Walks Kansas. This year's event will be on Saturday, April 26 at 10 a.m. at the West Ridge Mall in Topeka. Funds raised support NAMI Kansas' free local mental health programs and services. Lee and Deb Penner are part of the Mid-Kansas support group which meets once a month at our church. Please consider a donation to this vital organization. If you would prefer to send a check, make it payable to NAMI Kansas, and give it to Deb by April 23. Half of all donations go to our local affiliate. If you have any questions, contact Deb, Team Captain, at You may donate securely online at: <https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=1746>. Half of all donations go to our local affiliate.

Join us for Wednesday Community Nights!

Come for:

Supper at 5:30pm

Made by Living Stones Sunday school class

Pizza, Tossed Salad, Ice Cream Bars

Children's singing at 6:30pm

Activities for all ages 6:45pm

April 2: Pysanky eggs with Janet Regier

April 9: Sharing about Sharps' assignment in Columbia

My Coins Count—This year, coins will support food programs around the world. Bring coins (and bills!) to church Sunday mornings until the MCC sale. Starting today, we will have the coin tower in the Gathering Area for anyone who would like to drop your coins in the tower. Let's see how full we can get the tower filled!

The Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale aka "The MCC Sale" is coming up on April 11 and 12. Hopefully you have been busy getting projects ready to sell. If you have items for the sale please bring them to the church by Thursday, April 10. In recent years, Elena and I have coordinated transportation of sale items to Hutchinson. This year we will be traveling that weekend and will not be available. We need someone to coordinate the transportation of pies and other baked goods, woodworking projects including three benches, plants and numerous miscellaneous items to the sale. Most of these items need to be delivered on Friday afternoon. Baked goods can be delivered Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. Please contact us at entz.wiebe@gmail.com if you can help in this way.

The MCC Run for Relief will be in Hutchinson on April 12. We will again be participating in this run & are raising money for MCC. This year, in addition to soliciting your financial & prayer support, we would also like to invite you to join us in the MCC Run/Walk for Relief. You can find information at this link—<https://kansas.mccsale.org/run-for-relief/>. If you would be interested in sponsoring us through a financial donation to Mennonite Central Committee (100% of your donation will go directly to MCC), we would be most grateful. Your donation of any amount will go toward the important work of MCC relief & development work around the world. (Visit www.mcc.org to learn more.) Both cash & check are accepted. Feel free to put your donation in our mailbox at church, or mail it to us at by April 11. Please make checks payable to *Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale*. Thank you for your support & for your prayers for those around the world who benefit from the work of MCC.

~Woody and Nora Miller

Nurture Commission's current offering project, Infant Care Kits for MCC, will be ending March 31. There is still time for all ages to provide needed items for this ministry. Please see the Giving Tree on the east end of the Gathering Area for items still needed to complete kits. For the youth (& young at heart) who have already donated, a heartfelt thank you for your generosity!

Youth Group Verenike Casserole Fundraiser—As a fundraiser for our mission trip this year, the youth group will be hosting a verenike casserole supper on Wednesday, April 9, 5:30-7:00 PM. The menu will include verenike casserole, sausage, green beans, zweibach, cherry moos. Vegetarian/gluten free/dairy free/sugar free options are available. Please invite your friends and family for this spring fundraiser!

College scholarship money is available – If you (or a family member) will be attending (or are considering) a Mennonite college or university for either undergraduate study or graduate study during the 2025-2026 school year, you are invited to apply for scholarship funds from FMC. By no later than Sunday, April 20, 2025, submit the completed application to either Jyl Ewy or Ron Dietzel. For each school year, an FMC application must be completed. Some Mennonite colleges provide matching funds so your monies would be doubled when enrolled in one of those schools. Eligibility criteria for the FMC funds are provided on the application. The form is available in the Gathering Area at FMC; or, by contacting Ron Dietzel or Jyl Ewy.

You are invited to join us for an upcoming concert of the Kansas Mennonite Men's Chorus. The 120-member chorus includes members from our church. The concert will include traditional hymns and contemporary selections performed in four-part harmony. The concert at Tabor will include students in the Chamber Voices student ensemble with students in the Open Road and Woven choirs joining us at Bethel College. The concerts are free with an offering benefiting the global mission support work of Mennonite Central Committee. **2025 Concert Schedule: Tabor College, Richert Auditorium, Hillsboro, KS. April 6, 2025, 4:00 PM. Bethel College, Memorial Hall, North Newton, KS. April 13, 2025, 4:00 PM.**

It's time to donate to and apply for Camp Mennoscah Scholarships! Children in grades 3-12 (fall 2025) who attend First Mennonite and Casa Betania are eligible for \$100 scholarships to attend Camp Mennoscah this summer. Parents can apply for the scholarships by filling out the form they receive via email or signing up in the gathering area. Talk to Sara Rickard if you have questions about the scholarships. Register for camp at campmennoscah.org. **Congregation members can donate to the scholarship fund by writing checks to FMC with 'Camp Mennoscah Scholarships' in the memo line. Thank you!**

Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale Pies and Zwieback—we have been assigned to make pies and Zwieback for the Relief Sale that will take place on April 11-12 at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. Information is on the table in the Gathering Area along with the pie pans and bags for the bread. Both the pies and Zwieback need to be delivered to the sale on Saturday morning, April 12

Community Announcements

Bohne berrogie bake day for the MCC Sale is April 5, at Moundridge High School. Volunteers are needed in the morning for two hour shift. There is a sign up on the MCC website or you can contact Marla Gillmore at 620-921-0428. Bohne Berrogie will be sold from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM that day.