

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, June 15

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service—*Stump of Jesse*—Chris Weaver
4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

Thursday, June 19—Juneteenth

Church Office closed

Sunday, June 22

10:00 AM Worship Service—*John's Vision*—Pastor Luke Unruh
4:00 PM Casa Betania Service



A Shoot Will Grow Up from the Stump of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1–2, 6–9)

RANDY HORST

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

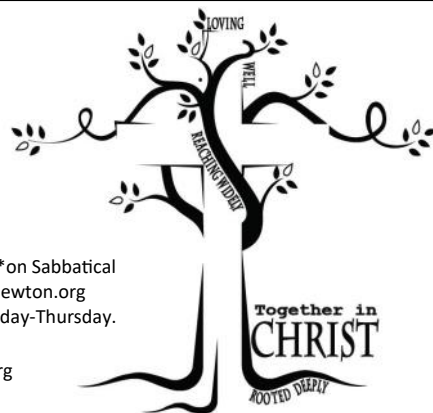
Laura Goerzen, Pastor—laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org *on Sabbatical

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



Growth, Unexpected

June 15, 2025

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Gathering

Welcome

Ken Regier, worship leader

Meditation Music

The Love of Jesus Medley
Donna Stucky

Call to Worship

Ken Regier, worship leader

Listening

Song for worship

Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah VT 95
There's A Wideness in God's Mercy VT 156

Children's Time

Shannon Bartel

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

Prayer for the Offering

Local Mission
Ken Regier

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:1-2, 6-9
Ken Regier

Sermon

Growth Unexpected
Chris Weaver

Response Song

We Dream of a Turning VT 209

Prayer of the Church

Chris Weaver

Sending

Sending Song

This Is God's Wondrous World VT 180

Peace Connections Sharing

Kendra Davila

Announcements and Benediction

Ken Regier, worship leader

Postlude

Sing to the Great Jehovah's Praise
Donna Stucky

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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 Goertzen Regier, Alex Goering, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musician: Donna Stucky. Chorister: Daryl Unruh. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering. Property Committee: Phillip Gaertner.

Special Young Adult Pilgrimage with Glen Guyton—Join Mennonite Church USA executive director Glen Guyton for a unique multiracial pilgrimage through the southern United States with opportunities for shared learning and deep understanding of the racial divides that our society perpetuates. Together, you'll walk in the footsteps of heroes, confront hard truths, & envision a future of reconciliation and hope. This is for young adults ages 18-30. Dates—October 28-November 2. Cost—\$800. Apply by September 15. Don't miss this chance to grow, reflect, & make a difference—sign up now.

SAVE THE DATE! Western District Women in Mission's annual Women's & Girls Retreat will be Saturday, September 6—Sunday, September 7 at Camp Mennoscah. Registration will open on our website on June 7 (register & pay online or print out form and mail with your payment). Visit westerndistrictwomeninmission.org for more information. This year's featured speakers are Pastor Katherine Goerzen & Pastor Laura Goerzen. Comforter tying will start Saturday at 10:00 AM. Afternoon seminars will include dried flower bookmarks, yoga, guided nature walk, book reviews with Bethany Martin from Faith & Life Bookstore & free time.

Peace Connections is looking for quarters to help supplement costs for Laundry Love—a program that is open to the community to assist with laundry needs. Laundry Love occurs every first Thursday of each month from 6-8 pm at Sunshine Laundry on 1st street. Everyone is welcome! You can contact Jenna Ratzlaff or Kendra Davila, Executive Director, if they have any questions.

WDC Staff position opening: Western District Conference seeks a part-time, Texas-based **Event & Social Media Coordinator** for WDC's Kids Meet Christ program. The position will require approximately 10 hours/month beginning in June 2025. The Kids Meet Christ (KMC) program is made possible through Lilly Endowment Inc.'s Nurturing Children Through Worship and Prayer Initiative, designed to help congregations more fully and intentionally engage children in intergenerational corporate worship and prayer practices. The Event & Social Media Coordinator will serve as a member of the WDC staff, collaborating with other staff to coordinate KMC events in Texas and manage KMC social media publicity over the 5-year grant period. For position description and application form, see below. Interested applicants please submit application form and letter of interest to the Conference Minister at heidirk@mennowdc.org.

Announcements

The offering for June 22, 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 "Children's Time" 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 8—160; Sunday school—115.

Pastor Laura will be on sabbatical from April 21 - July 21. In her absence please direct any pastoral needs to Pastor Luke (lukeu@firstmennonitenewton.org) or Chris Weaver (weaverchris270@gmail.com). If you have questions related to weekly worship plans, please contact Judy Murphy (juju7960@cox.net) or Pastor Luke.

Our new plastic recycling year has begun! We already turned in 58 pounds. Every pound of plastic we recycle is a pound that stays out of the landfill, and gets us closer to earning a second bench for our church!

Pastor Luke will be out of the office June 15-20. For pastoral concerns contact the church office.

The Church Office will be closed Thursday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth. Please have all bulletin announcements to the church office by noon on Tuesday, June 17.

Children's Offering Summer Edition is happening now! Everyone is invited to help gather materials for Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) School Kits which will be assembled during Sunday School on August 17. See the table in the Gathering Area or visit MCC's website for a packing list, and bring the new school supplies to church to the designated boxes in the Gathering Area. How many can FMC make? Let's find out together!

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

SEAK and Water Wednesdays. Peace Connections is continuing the SEAK program, offering free lunch and enrichment to all, ages 1-18. The goals for SEAK are to provide nutritious food; provide interactive presentations from local resources; increase familiarity and use of those resources; provide engagement and interactions and physical activity; provide free books and materials to lessen summer learning loss; and to have fun! FMC has helped on Wednesdays each year, leading water play activities. Please sign up in the Gathering Area to help Bev with Water Wednesdays this summer. We will set up our buckets and hoses beginning at 11:00 AM each week, June 6-July 30.

Borderline Natives—Live in Concert! Lead guitarist **Seth Bontrager, Greg & Melody's son**, returns home for this special **Free Concert at Military Park, by the library, on June 27, 7:00-9:00 PM**. Midwest-born and Nashville-based, **Borderline Natives** deliver a powerful blend of emo-tinged alternative rock with heartfelt lyrics that speak to anyone who's ever felt lost or out of place. Formed in 2018, the band has built a loyal following through raw, emotional songs like "Best Intentions" and "Blood Sweat Sugar." Don't miss the chance to see this rising band live!

Would you like to do something to show your support of our brothers and sisters of Casa Betania? One simple way is by your presence as a visitor in a Casa Betania service. Visitors are always welcome, but there also is a sign-up sheet on the announcement board in the Gathering Area to encourage more intentional attendance and support of our sister congregation Casa Betania. If you have questions, or are interested in other ways to be involved, you may talk with Linda Shelly or Chuck Regier. The service is usually in the sanctuary at 4:00 PM, but can vary. To be sure, text or call Linda (316-734-5947). Thank you for giving this your prayerful consideration!

Western District Conference Annual Assembly is quickly approaching on August 8-9, at Hesston Mennonite Church. FMC is allowed six delegates to attend the assembly and represent FMC at the business sessions. FMC will reimburse registration expenses. This is a great way to represent FMC within Western District Conference. If you are interested, please contact Ron Ratzlaff, Church Board Chair.

For Your Prayers

WDC--Pray for WDC staff and Commissions, as they equip ministers, resource congregations, nurture church planting partnerships, and encourage support for WDC ministries.

MMN—Mennonite Mission Network requests prayer for SEMILLA, the Latin American Anabaptist Seminary in Guatemala, which provides theological education for 13 Anabaptist-Mennonite conferences in Central America and Mexico. Through virtual education, it provides training to Spanish speakers around the world. Pray that SEMILLA would have all the resources necessary to continue this ministry.



Planning a small group retreat or church leadership getaway? Consider the North Newton Family Retreat as your next destination! This spacious home in North Newton, Kansas features 5 bedrooms with 9 beds and 3 full bathrooms—comfortably sleeping up to 12 guests. It's an ideal setting for meaningful connection with close friends or focused planning time. Generous common areas provide the perfect space to gather, relax, and recharge. For questions or to make a reservation, please contact Amy Funk at 316-284-7208 or newtonsvacationrentals@gmail.com. Scan the QR code for full details and availability! North Newton Family Retreat is the personal residence of Laura and Nick Sharp. During their year of service in La Mesa, Colombia, they're offering their home as a short-term vacation rental to help offset living expenses back in the U.S. Your stay helps support the meaningful work taking place in Colombia. Please note: Booking a stay does not contribute directly to fundraising efforts managed by Mennonite Mission Network. Rental proceeds help cover personal expenses not included in their MMN-supported budget (mortgage, taxes, insurance, etc.)

Community Announcements

It's a Party! Announcing Summer Story Days 2025. Join WDC Resource Library staff for stories and come and go activities for ages 3-8 and their caregivers. **New this year: Virtual participation with mailed craft kits available**--sign up for virtual participation at forms.gle/8DnWnLs64VkZJoeB6. No sign up for in-person activities in North Newton. Join us June 7, July 12, and August 9. See attached image or flyer for more information or contact Jennie at crlib@mennowdc.org.

Peace Connections is looking for people to cook meals for the Tuesday night Circle of Hope gatherings. Churches, small groups, Sunday school classes, anyone can help. Contact Jenna Ratzlaff or Kendra Davila for more information!

MCC school kits for South Texas, June 18, 6:00-8:00 PM. Bring your kids, grandkids, and friends to MCC (121 E. 30th St, North Newton) for a fun evening of packing school kits for MCC partner The Sidewalk School. Hear about this partner from MCC Borderlands Program Coordinator, Becky Teiwes and for extra summer fun, enjoy hand-made ice cream from Salted Creamery at the end of the evening. Donations welcome to help cover the cost of school kit materials. For more info: mcc.org/events/school-kits-south-texas or call 316.283.2720.

Sewing Days of Summer, June 20 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM and June 21 from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM. All sewers are welcome to come to MCC (121 E. 30th St, North Newton)! Bring your own projects or sew kit bags/comforters/dignity kits for MCC, everyone from beginners to experts are welcome! Bring your kids or grandkids and pass along the joy of sewing. Please RSVP online at mcc.org/events/sewing-days-summer or call Brocia at 316-836-5054.