

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, June 29

9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Worship Service—Keith Knopp, preaching  
4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

### Tuesday, July 1

7:00 PM Peace Pod—FH

### Wednesday, July 2

6:30 PM Board Game Night—FH

### Sunday, July 6

9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Luke is preaching  
4:00 PM Casa Betania Service



*First Mennonite Church  
Newton, KS*

### 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

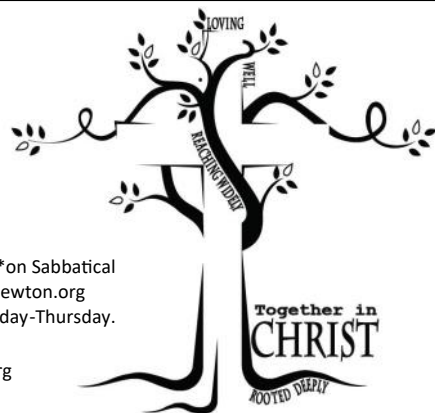
Laura Goerzen, Pastor—[laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org](mailto:laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org) \*on Sabbatical

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)



# *Loving Passion for....*

## *June 29, 2025*

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### *Gathering*

#### **Welcome**

Judy Murphy, worship leader

#### **Meditation Music**

*Knowing You*

Jyl Ewy

#### **Call to Worship**

Judy Murphy, worship leader

### *Listening*

#### **Songs for worship**

*You're Beautiful*

*This is Amazing Grace*

#### **Children's Time**

Lee Penner

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

#### **Prayer for the Offering**

Western District Conference

Judy Murphy

#### **Scripture Reading**

Matthew 25:34-45 and Romans 5:6-8

Judy Murphy

#### **Sermon**

*Loving Passion for....*

Keith Knopp

#### **Response Song**

*Jesus Messiah*

#### **Prayer of the Church**

Pastor Luke Unruh

### *Sending*

#### **Sending Song**

*Death Was Arrested*

#### **Sharing Special Guest**

Rod Pauls

#### **Announcements and Benediction**

Judy Murphy, worship leader

#### **Postlude**

*He Is Exalted with Praise the Lord Ye Heavens, Adore Him*

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](http://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, Isaac Koehn, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musician: Jyl Ewy, Joey Menninga, Joan Entz, Pastor Luke Unruh. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering. Property Committee: Kevin Hamm*

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**Transport of MCC school kits and hygiene kits** from Kansas to South Texas need-  
ed! MCC is looking for anyone traveling between North Newton and Dallas or (even  
better) all the way to South Texas between now and mid-August. We have kits in Kan-  
sas that need to get to Texas, and we'd love to utilize vehicles that are already going  
that direction to save resources. If you might be able to help MCC out, please contact  
Brocia Mueller at [brociamueller@mcc.org](mailto:brociamueller@mcc.org) or call Brocia at 316-836-5054.

**MCC Peace Camp at Rocky Mountain Mennonite Camp**, Sept. 21-27, Divide, CO. How  
can we live out God's call for justice and reconciliation through nonviolence in a world  
that is built on the myth of redemptive violence? If you are a young adult (age 18-30)  
concerned about the state of our world and energized to reimagine society built on  
God's vision of love and justice for all, come join us for a week of experiential learning  
rooted in theological reflection, peacebuilding practices, and real-world application.  
Register by August 31 at [mcc.org/events/rocky-mountain-peace-camp](https://mcc.org/events/rocky-mountain-peace-camp). Pass this op-  
portunity on to young adults in your life!

**The Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution**, affiliated with Bethel College,  
is offering a 2-day training on "Managing Differences Within Faith Communities" on  
Friday and Saturday, July 25-26, 2025, at KIPCOR's training facility in North Newton.  
This course is designed for congregational leaders, pastors, and anyone who would like  
to explore ways to navigate differences as a faith community in a healthier way. This  
training is led by Robert Yutzy, KIPCOR Senior Associate for Congregational Ministries,  
and Keren Kandel, KIPCOR Executive Director. This course will help to better under-  
stand the dynamics when there is disagreement and gives opportunities to engage in  
practical tools that can transform conflict and difference into spiritual and community  
renewal. Please see the flier in the Gathering Area for more information and the cost  
of registration.

**Special Young Adult Pilgrimage with Glen Guyton**—Join Mennonite Church USA exec-  
utive 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 Sep-  
tember 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 Re-  
treat will be Saturday, September 6—Sunday, September 7 at Camp Mennoscah. Reg-  
istration will open on our website on June 7 (register & pay online or print out form  
and mail with your payment). Visit [westerndistrictwomeninmission.org](https://westerndistrictwomeninmission.org) for more infor-  
mation. This year's featured speakers are Pastor Katherine Goerzen & Pastor Laura  
Goerzen. Comforter tying will start Saturday at 10:00 AM. Afternoon seminars will in-  
clude dried flower bookmarks, yoga, guided nature walk, book reviews with Bethany  
Martin from Faith & Life Bookstore & free time.

## Announcements

**The offering for July 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 un-  
marked, it will go to Local Mission. For electronic giving, contact the church office or  
go to the church website: [firstmennonitenewton.org](https://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 22—118; Sunday school—115

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

**Peace Pod will meet** this Tuesday, July 1, 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall at the church.  
Comforter will be available to work on. Any other activity is welcome. See you there!

**Board Game Night—this Wednesday, July 2, 6:30 PM.** Nurture Commission will host  
a board game night the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 PM, in the Fellow-  
ship Hall. 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!

**The Church Office will be closed** Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.  
Please have all bulletin announcements to the church office by noon on Tuesday,  
July 1.

**Join us on July 6 at Camp Mennoscah for a baptism!** After going through a faith explo-  
ration class and spending some time in discernment, Luke Myers has made the decision  
for baptism. A service will take place at 3:30 PM by the river at Camp Mennoscah. Fol-  
lowing the brief service, there will be an ice cream reception to celebrate this occasion!

**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!

**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!

**SEAK and Water Wednesdays.** Peace Connections is continuing the SEAK program, offering free lunch and enrichment to all, ages 1-18. 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.

**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.



**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 [newtonksvacationrentals@gmail.com](mailto:newtonksvacationrentals@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.)

### For Your Prayers

Pray for the campers, counselors and staff of Camp Mennoscah as camping season has begun. We ask for safety for the campers. Meet the campers in nature and the days activities. May they find meaningful "God sightings" in the weeks ahead.

Dave and Elena Wiebe are biking to MennoCon in Greensboro, N.C. We remember them as they are riding their bike. We ask for safety on the road and stamina and energy. Go with them and make their path straight. Be their guide and protector.

Laura and Nick Sharp, Jesse and Brielle have arrived safely in La Mesa, Columbia. We ask for Your presence with them as they adjust to a new culture and home. Help them to absorb a new language quickly and bring some good friends into their life.

### Community Announcements

**It's a Party! Announcing Summer Story Days 2025.** Join WDC Resource Library staff for stories and come & 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/8DnWnLs64VkJoeB6](https://forms.gle/8DnWnLs64VkJoeB6). No sign up for in-person activities in North Newton. Join us **July 12 at 11:00 AM for a special virtual author visit from Aimee Reid** and August 9 as a part of WDC Annual Assembly. See attached image or flyer for more information or contact Jennie at [crlib@mennowdc.org](mailto:crlib@mennowdc.org).

**Camp Mennoscah needs a nurse for July 27-Aug. 1 (Senior High camp) and a music leader for July 20-24.** Nurses can receive a stipend or parent discount for a camper of up to full camp fees. Contact Olivia at [olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org](mailto:olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org) or 620-297-3290 with questions or to claim a week. Have other skills? Camp has other needs, too--maintenance, custodial, musician/guitarist.

**Colorado peaches are coming to MCC!** Palisade peaches from western Colorado are available for order and purchase until July 30. Two sizes are available: **9 lb. for \$30 and 18 lb. for \$42.** Orders can be placed by emailing [patsydirksen@mcc.org](mailto:patsydirksen@mcc.org) or by calling MCC, 316-283-2720. Payment in the form of cash or check is due by **July 30.** Make checks payable to **Beth-El Mennonite Church** with "peaches" in the memo line. Payment can be mailed to: MCC, PO Box 235, North Newton, KS 67117 or dropped off at the MCC at 121 East 30<sup>th</sup>, North Newton. Peaches will be ready for pick-up on **Monday, August 18** at the MCC warehouse. Beth-El Mennonite Church sells peaches as a fundraiser for bierocks ingredients that are sold at the Rocky Mountain Mennonite Relief Sale in October. Thank you for supporting MCC!

**Kidron Bethel Village** will host its annual Fourth of July Fireworks Extravaganza on Friday, July 4, at 3001 Ivy Dr., North Newton. The evening includes fun for the whole family with games, giveaways, food & fireworks. Arrival may begin at 8:00 PM. Hot dogs, chips, drinks and ice cream bars will be available for purchase, with proceeds benefitting the Health Care Benevolent Fund. Fireworks will begin at sundown, approximately 9:45 PM.