

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, July 6

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Luke—*Embracing Lament*
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Service

Wednesday, July 9-16

Youth Group will be gone for thier service trip

Sunday, July 13

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—Chris Weaver, preaching
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Service



Jerusalem's Suffering (Lamentations 1)

LISA OBERIK

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

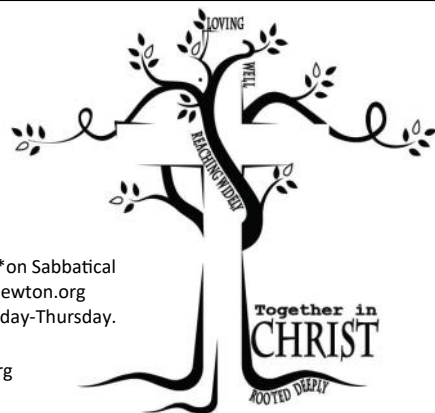
Laura Goerzen, Pastor—laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org *on Sabbatical

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



Embracing Lament

July 6, 2025

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Gathering

Welcome

Dana Neff, worship leader

Meditation Music

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say VT 536

Call to Worship

Dana Neff, worship leader

Listening

Song for worship

All Who Are Thirsty VT 49

Children's Time

Andrea Regier

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

Prayer for the Offering

Mennonite Mission Network
Stephanie Weaver

Scripture Reading

Lamentations 1:1-2; 20-22
Dana Neff

Sermon

Embracing Lament
Pastor Luke Unruh

Response Song

As I Went Down to the River to Pray

Welcoming Dorian & Amy Funk, and Luke Myers into Membership

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Luke Unruh

Sending

Sending Song

Holy, Holy, Holy VT 76

Announcements and Benediction

Dana Neff, worship leader

Postlude

On the Wings of an Eagle

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

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 understand 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 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.

Save the Date for the Kids Meet Christ Fall 2025 Workshops—November 15 in Wichita, KS. The Theme will be "Preparing the way for children in worship". Stay tuned for more details!

Mennonite Mission Network - Seth and Stephany Rudeen, members of New Creation Fellowship Church, Newton, KS, hope to leave for Guatemala in August 2025, and they need your financial support to begin their ministry. They are designated to serve at the Q’eqchi’ Bezaleel Mennonite Educational Center, operated by the Q’eqchi’ Mennonite Church near San Pedro Carchá, Guatemala. Mission Network is partnering with Central America Study and Service (CASAS) in Guatemala City, where they will begin with two months of language and cultural study before starting their service. Their diverse roles at Bezaleel will include educational support, practical contributions, and building meaningful relationships with students, staff, and the church community. Go to Mennonite Mission Network’s website to learn more or to make a donation.

Announcements

The offering for July 13 will be for Local Misson. 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 29—122; Sunday school—121

Offering for Local Missions from June 15, 22, 29—\$4,374; online Local Missions—\$5,674.

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.

Join us today at Camp Mennoscah for a baptism! After going through a faith exploration class and spending some time in discernment, Luke Myers has made the decision for baptism. A service will take place **today at 3:30 PM** by the river at Camp Mennoscah. Following 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!

For Your Prayers

Our thoughts and prayers are with Lorene Stamps, Sarai (Stamps), Corwin, and Shiloh Stark on the death of Lorene's husband and Sarai's father, Billy Stamps on June 24. We ask for comfort for the family during this time.

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 are getting settled in La Mesa, Colombia. 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.

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.

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/8DnWnLs64VkZJoeB6. 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.

The first-ever group to win the national talent competition "The Voice" is three Mennonite siblings from Pettisville, Ohio. Bekah, Joshua and Caleb Liechty, **Girl Named Tom, will give a free concert at Bethel College on Saturday, July 19.** The Green "opens" at 4:30 PM, and food and beverage trucks/vendors start serving at 5:00 PM. Local favorites and Bethel alumni The Flannelbacks open the show at 7:00 PM, with Girl Named Tom taking the stage at 8:00 PM. Plan now to attend!

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 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 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 30th, 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!

Transport of MCC school kits and hygiene kits from Kansas to South Texas needed! 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 Kansas 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 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. Pass this opportunity on to young adults in your life!