

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 21

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Laura preaching
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania Service
- 4:30 PM FH/Kitchen reserved

Wednesday, September 24

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 7:00 PM Youth Group

Thursday, September 25

- 6:30 PM Caregiving and Membership Commission

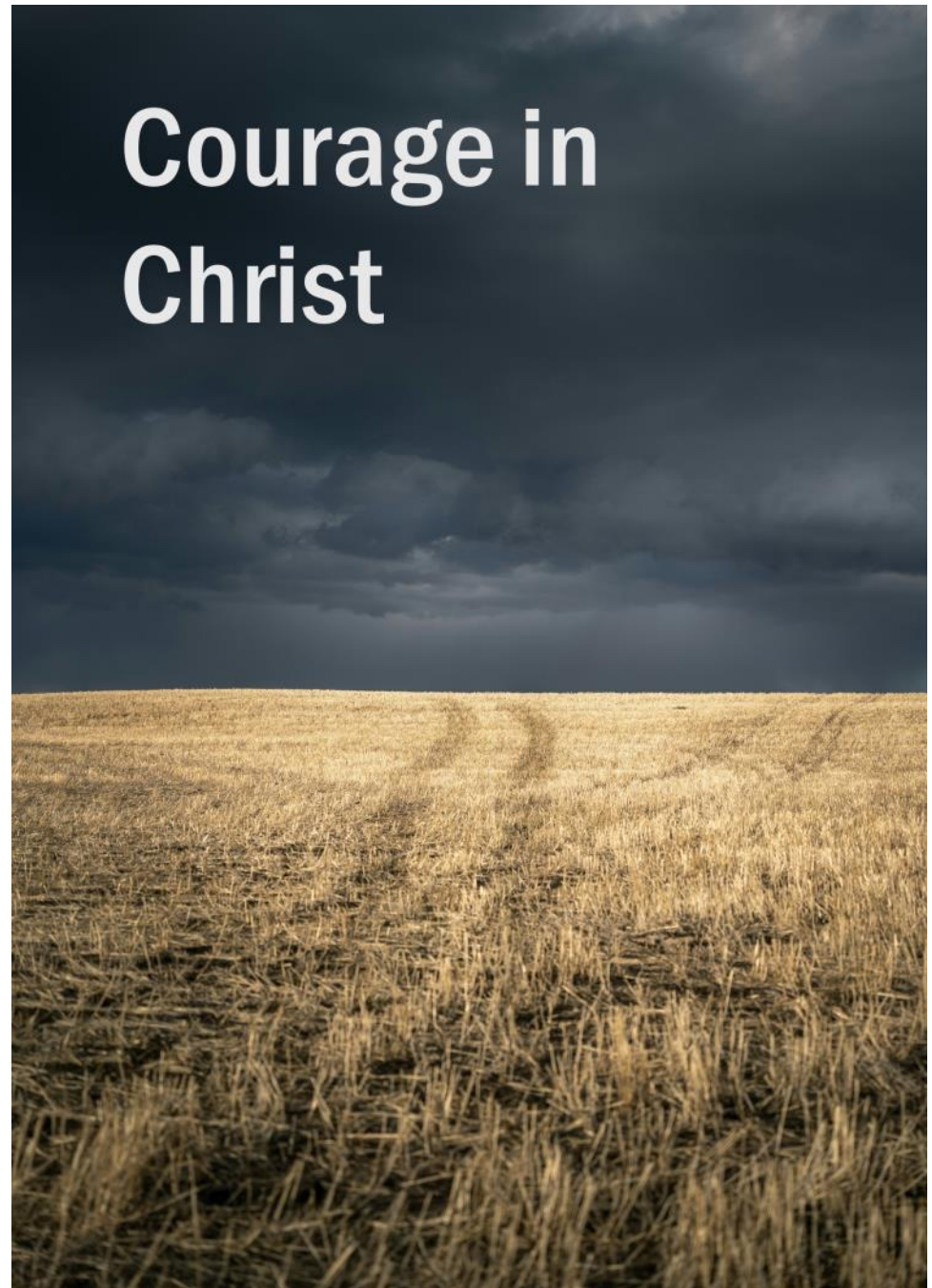
Sunday, September 28

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

Upcoming worship service:

- Sunday, October 5—Pastor Laura; World Communion Sunday

Courage in Christ



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



*First Mennonite Church
Newton, Kansas*

Abigail's Courage to De-escalate

September 21, 2025

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Gathering

Welcome

Dana Neff, worship leader

Gathering Music

Amanda Entz

Call to Worship

Dana Neff, worship leader

Listening

Songs for worship

We Praise Thee, O God VT 91

Wonderful Grace of Jesus VT 170

Children's Time

Hope Ewy

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

Prayer for the Offering

Local Missions

Dana Neff

Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 25:2-13, 18-20, 23-27, 32-35

Dana Neff

Sermon

Abigail's Courage to De-escalate

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Sending

Sending Song

We Are People of God's Peace VT 797

Announcements and Benediction

Dana Neff, worship leader

Postlude

Praise God From Whom All Blessing Flow VT 70

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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, Mellody Enns, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Daryl Unruh, Amanda Entz. Visuals: Cindy Unruh and Carol Goering
Property Committee: Alan Entz*

story of the Mennonite migration from Ukraine & Russia to North America. This is the same film that Kauffman Museum sponsored for screening earlier this year at Bethel College.

Save the date for Homecoming at Hesston College—Hesston College will celebrate with alumni and friends of the college during Homecoming weekend, September 26 to 28. President Mark Landes will be inaugurated during the weekend activities. For a full schedule of events & to register to attend, visit hesston.edu/homecoming.

QUILTERS CORNER IS HAVING A FALL SALE-Friday, October 3, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM and Saturday, October 4, from 8:00 AM to noon at the MCC Central States Warehouse, 121 E. 30th Street, North Newton, Kansas. Come and shop ALL things quilting! SPECIAL ITEM FOR SALE: Husqvarna-Viking Designer Epic 1 sewing and embroidery machine with many, many accessories - \$4,500. Contact person for this item is Charlotte Wenger: wengercd@gmail.com All proceeds support MCC work around the world for relief, development, and peace.

Camp Mennoscah's Annual Meeting will be held at Hope Mennonite Church on October 19 at 6:30 PM. All are invited to attend.

Campus Pastor for Bethel College - Bethel College (located in North Newton, KS) is seeking to fill the Campus Pastor position. The Campus Pastor provides leadership and management to all Campus Ministry initiatives in accordance with the mission and policies of Bethel College. They develop, maintain, and facilitate programs and initiatives focused on Bethel College's commitment to Christian ethics and spiritual vitality; promotes interfaith understanding; and promotes the integration of faith and learning. For a complete job description and to apply, please see the website at: <https://www.bethelks.edu/about-bethel/career-opportunities>

The Swiss Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association annual banquet will be held on October 18, 5:00 PM, at the Burrton City Auditorium (203 N. Burrton Ave., Burrton, KS). Peter Buller, recent Bethel College graduate, will speak about his experience this summer at Reba Place in Chicago, connecting with bigger themes about our role as Mennonites in the world. Musical entertainment will be provided by the Schwisters. RSVP by October 11 to Dave Stucky at bigdstucky@gmail.com or text or call 620-532-4408. The cost of the banquet is \$25 and can be paid at the door or online at www.swissmennonite.org.

Announcements

The offering for September 28, will be for Local Mission. 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 September 14—155; Sunday school—138.

Courage in Christ. Whatever our politics or worldview might be, we can all agree that fear is a commodity that sells well in our culture right now. As followers of Jesus, we can also agree that Jesus calls us out of fear into love and trust. As 1 John 4:18 says, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear." What are the scripture texts, people, and stories that direct us away from fear towards courage and love? Join us at FMC this fall, as we explore the biblical, spiritual, and historical resources we have for living with "Courage in Christ."

For anyone who missed the second part of our Safe Sanctuaries training last Sunday, the make-up session is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 24, at 7:00 PM, via zoom**. Check your email for a zoom link early next week. Please contact Sara Rickard if you would like to complete the training but are unable to attend both sessions.

Check out the new Historical Committee display in the Gathering Area. You can learn about the Koinonia Indian Mennonite Church and our past and present connection to it.

Church retreat is just around the corner on November 1-2! Registration forms are located on the table in the Gathering Area. Please return completed forms to the church office ASAP (no later than October 26). We are looking forward to a week-end filled with faith, fun, fishing, and fellowship!

For Your Prayers

Music Scholarship Fund—We are now receiving requests for music scholarships to help cover the cost of music lessons (piano, instrumental, voice, dance) for fall semester 2025. If you are interested, please contact Barb Claassen by phone (620-242-4325) or email (s.claassen@sbcglobal.net).

Share your musical gifts! Worship Commission is looking for song leaders, guitarists, pianists, and anyone who would like to contribute to worship music at First Mennonite. Whether you prefer to make music solo, as an accompanist, or in a group, reach out and we'll get you connected! Contact Pastor Laura or a member of Worship Commission: Jyl Ewy, Alesha Miller, Judy Murphy, and Dana Neff.

Community Announcements

Join Kansas National Education Association and Kansas Interfaith Action at Shalom Mennonite Church (800 E 1st St) on September 25 at 6:00 PM, for *School Spirit: Faith-full support of Public Education*, a joint forum focusing on the importance of people of faith and conscience supporting our neighborhood schools and how can use our voices to advocate for our students, educators, and communities. Learn more and register at bit.ly/SchoolSpiritNewton.

Grace Hill Mennonite Church warmly invites you to attend the 9th Annual Community Hog Roast, taking place on Sunday, September 28, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM, at the church, located at 10218 SE 12th, Whitewater, KS 67154. Event Highlights: - Outdoor Fellowship: Enjoy an evening outdoors with friends and neighbors. -Meal: A delicious pulled pork barbecue meal with sides will be served from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. -Games and Entertainment: Yard games and live music will be available throughout the evening. -Music Schedule: The Flannelbacks and Brett and Caleb Klingenberg will perform from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Support the Community. A free-will donation will be accepted, with all proceeds supporting the Newton, Whitewater, and Potwin food banks.

Volunteers are needed for grounds work at Camp MennoScah. This could be mowing, trail maintenance, string trimming, poison ivy & sticker plant control, or likely any number of other things. Contact us at 620-297-3290 to discuss opportunities!

Student photographer exhibit open at Hesston College—An exhibit titled “Travelogue of Photos Presenting the Connection to Home and the Allure of Away” featuring the work of Hesston College student photographer Audrey Befort will be featured in the Regier-Friesen Gallery located in Hesston College’s Laban Peachey Center (325 S. College Dr., Hesston) from September 1 to 28. Exhibit hours are 9:00 AM—4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, and admission is free.

BETHEL COLLEGE WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION is looking forward to Fall Festival, our biggest money-raising event. We will have our usual New Year’s cookies, borscht and zwiebach and pie by the slice all outside Luyken Fine Arts Center and Market-in-the-Round inside. We again welcome your donations of homemade peppernuts, whole fruit pies, poppyseed rolls, zwiebach, cinnamon rolls, cookies, jams and jellies and other goodies. We’d love to have you donate your craft items as well! Please bring baked goods and craft donations to the Luyken Fine Arts Center Music Library between 1:00-5:00 PM, Friday, October 3, or 7:00-9:00 AM, Saturday, October 4. If you have questions, contact us at bcwa@bethelks.edu. Volunteers are needed as well to staff the booths. To sign up, click on the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4CA8A72FA3F58-50920044-fall>

Registration for the Fall Scrapbook and Crafts Retreat, October 10-12, is open. Activities and lodging will be in the dining hall and bunkhouses. Register at <https://campmennoscah.campbrainregistration.com>

As part of the Salt City Film Fest in Hutchinson, KS at the Fox Theater September 25-27, the film “Where the Cottonwoods Grow” by Dale Hildebrand (Canada) will be shown at 7:00 PM, on Thursday, September 25. Tickets are \$5. The film tells the