

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, April 19

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

Wednesday, April 22

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 6:00 PM Youth Group Hamburger Meal—FH
- 6:45 PM Youth Group Auction—FH

Sunday, April 26

- 9:15 AM Sunday School
- 10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Laura—*The Cross as Justification*
- 4:00 PM Casa Betania service

Cross-wise: Metaphors for Understanding Salvation



Reconciliation

Victory

Justification

Redemption

Sacrifice

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



Cross-wise April 19, 2026

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Gathering

Welcome

Wendy Schrag, worship leader

Meditation Music

I Will Always Bless the Lord—Psalm 34

Ben's Band

Call to Worship

Wendy Schrag, worship leader

Songs for worship

I Looked Up/Alleluia, He is Coming

I Love to Tell the Story VT 761

Listening

Children's Time

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Child Dedication for:

Anna Claassen

Clara Goertzen-Regier

Auden Graber

Henry Koop

Song

Welcome to the Family

Prayer for Offering—Local Mission

Wendy Schrag

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:11-22

Sean and Michael Tomlinson

Sermon

The Cross as Reconciliation

Pastor Luke Unruh

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Laura

Sending

Sending Song

The Lorica

Announcements and Benediction

Wendy Schrag, worship leader

Postlude

This Little Light of Mine

Ben's Band

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

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, Joey Menninga, Eric Murphy, and Alex Goering are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Ben's Band. Visuals: Cindy Unruh. Property Committee: Dorian Funk

MCC is recruiting Canner Operators to join its mobile meat canning team, which prepares about **600,000 cans of meat** annually for global communities in need. These operators travel to **30 U.S. locations** from October to April, managing machinery, operating steam and pressure vessels, coordinating volunteers, and ensuring compliance with USDA regulations. Make new friends while participating in **a unique service adventure!** Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until April 25th OR until position is filled. For the full job description and to apply: [Canner Operator](#) or contact MCC at 1-888-563-4676.

Mennonite Church USA is accepting applications for its annual **Pam De Young Net Zero Energy Fund** grants, from now through June 30. The grants assist MC USA congregations committed to renewable energy by defraying the cost of hardware purchases to install solar panels, car charging stations or other renewable energy projects. Learn more and apply here: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/news/2026-renewable-energy-grants/>

Summer Camp Staff Needed! A head cook is needed for the Pre Junior I Camp, June 21-25. Kitchen staff is needed for all weeks EXCEPT First Camp and Senior High. A nurse is needed for July 19-24. Volunteers for custodial and maintenance are needed for most weeks of camp. Contact Olivia at olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org or call/text 316-293-7313 for more details.

WDC office schedule and Resource Library updates: The WDC office hours are now Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM-4:30 PM (instead of opening at 8:00 a.m. and closed on Fridays). This is due to staff schedules. Also, to enhance use of WDC Resource Library materials a secure locker is now located just next to the book drop-off outside the WDC office entrance, for after hours/weekend pick up of materials that have been checked out from the WDC Resource Library! To arrange for check-out and pick up of materials, contact the WDC office at 316-283-6300 or wdc@mennowdc.org, or contact the Resource Library Director at crlib@mennowdc.org

WDC Resource Library—Need a resource but can't get to the WDC Resource Library during open hours? We now have after-hours lockers to pick up library materials on weekends and during evening hours. Contact Jennie at crlib@mennowdc.org to arrange pickup. Resource Library Open Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Announcements

The offering for April 26 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: first-mennonitenewton.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 April 12—157; Sunday school—135.

Today we are dedicating four of our newest church family members: Anna Claassen (Parents Michelle and Sean Claassen), Clara Goertzen-Regier (Parents Miriam and Ryan Goertzen-Regier), Auden Graber (Parents Erin and Matthew Graber), and Henry Koop (Parents Melanie and Aaron Koop). Be sure to join us as we promise our spiritual care and support to these little ones!

Have you ever wanted to express your creativity during the worship service, but do not want to be on stage? Do you have basic computer skills? We are looking for one or two people to run the projection computer one Sunday a month. If you are interested, contact Eric Murphy to see if you might be a good fit.

Property Committee is looking for a person or group to mow and edge the church lawn this summer. The church does not have equipment, but does pay gas expenses. Contact or Tracy in the office if interested. Also, if you have a good, reliable riding mower that you are willing to donate/sale to the church, please contact a Property Committee member.

Save the Date for VBS! First Mennonite's joint Vacation Bible School with other Newton Mennonite churches will take place the evenings of May 26-29 at Bethel College Mennonite Church with a joint worship service the morning of May 31.

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 2026-2027 school year, you are invited to apply for scholarship funds from FMC. **By no later than TODAY, April 19, 2026**, 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

For Your Prayers

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.

Scholarships for Camp Mennoscah: First Mennonite offers a \$100 scholarship to any child from the First Mennonite or Casa Betania congregations to attend Camp Mennoscah. Parents will soon receive an email with instructions on how to apply for the scholarship online. Alternatively there will soon be sign-up sheets posted in the Gathering Area. Campers will still need to register for camp at campmennoscah.org. **Anyone wishing to contribute to the Camp Mennoscah fund can submit a check to the church office with "Camp Mennoscah Scholarships" in the subject line.**



YOUTH GROUP MEAL and AUCTION

Everyone is welcome! Invite friends and family!

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Hamburger Fry at 6:00 PM

Auction starting at 6:45 PM



Proceeds will be used for our summer mission trip.

**Be sure and pick up your listing of Auction items
in your mailbox or the court area.**

Auction items can be viewed starting at 5:45 PM, April 22

Ken Regier, auctioneer

Come and enjoy the fellowship and support the youth!

Bring auction items to the church office before Tuesday, April 21!



Community Announcements

Be part of something special at the first-ever NAMIWalks Mid-Kansas Event on Saturday, June 13 in Hesston! This event brings our community together to raise awareness, support mental health, and remind others they are not alone. Proceeds help fund free, local programs through NAMI Kansas. **NAMIWalks** is **NAMI's** (National Alliance on Mental Illness) major fundraiser of the year. Lee and Deb Penner are part of our local affiliate's Family Support Group that meets monthly at our church. Please consider a donation to this vital organization. If you prefer to send a check, make it payable to NAMI Mid-Kansas. You may donate securely online by using the link below. Register, walk, or support the cause at namiwalks.org/midkansas ~Deb Penner, Walk Manager and Team Captain for "Walking with Penner"

Kidron Bethel Village in North Newton is looking for volunteer pianists to play for chapel services on Wednesday afternoons and resident hymn sings on Thursday mornings. If you have the gift of playing the piano and would like to help create meaningful worship and fellowship experiences for residents, we would love to hear from you. For more information, contact Sheri Esau at 316-836-4821 or volunteer@bluestem.org.

The Central Kansas Master Chorale will present Haydn's Lord Nelson Mass (Mass for Troubled Times) with orchestra. Please join us for this special concert directed by Dr. Joel Garber. This free event will be held at 3:00 PM, today, at Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 S Main St, Hesston, KS. Admission is free, donations accepted. For more information, visit the chorale website at www.centralkansasmasterchorale.org.

Camp Mennoscah—Online Registration for the 2026 Summer Youth Camps is open. The theme for the summer is "In the Wilderness." Through the new, strange and unknown of "wilderness," we will discover the sacred within each person and all creation and meet God there. Summer Youth Camps are for youth in grades 3-12 (Fall 2026). Register at <https://campmennoscah.campbrainregistration.com/>

Women & Girls! Come join us for our annual Mennonite Women in Mission's potluck salad supper on Monday, April 20, 6:00 PM, at the Tabor Mennonite Church, rural Newton. Our guest speaker will be Kate Mast speaking on "Our Time, Our Stories, Our Stuff." Kate's presentation encourages us to think kindly about our stuff in relationship to our time and the stories we tell about our lives. Please bring a potluck salad and one small item that is a treasure of yours to share with your table group. RSVP is not required. More information is on our website at mennonitewomeninmission.org or on our Facebook page.

Bluestem Communities hosts a summer Jr. Volunteer Program at Kidron Bethel Village (North Newton) and Schowalter Villa (Hesston) for youth ages 12 to 17. Spend your summer making intergenerational connections and serving seniors. The program runs from June 1 to July 24 on a flexible schedule that meets volunteer needs. Application is required and must be submitted by May 8. To receive an application, contact Volunteer@bluestem.org or 316-836-4821.