

WEEK AT A GLANCE

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

Wednesday, April 29

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 6:45 PM Youth Group

Sunday, May 3

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

Cross-wise: Metaphors for Understanding Salvation



Reconciliation

Victory

Justification

Sacrifice

Redemption

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

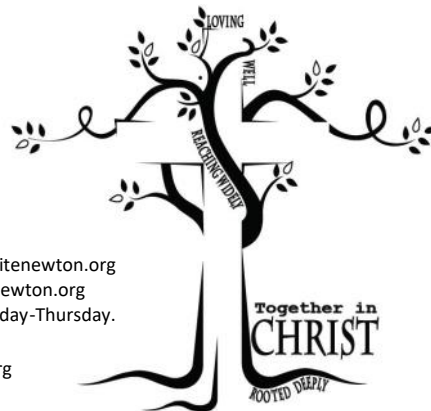
Laura Goerzen, Pastor—620-386-0518; laurag@firstmennonitenewton.org

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 26, 2026

Gathering

Welcome

Dana Neff, worship leader

Meditation Music

I Will Rise

Jyl Ewy

Call to Worship

Dana Neff, worship leader

Songs for worship

Indescribable

Today is the Day

Listening

Children's Time

Keith Knopp

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

Prayer for Offering—Local Mission

Dana Neff

Scripture Reading

Romans 3:21-26, 5:6-11

Amy and Micah Funk

Sermon

The Cross as Justification

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Response Song

In Christ Alone VT 332

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Luke Unruh

Sending

Sending Song

Wonderful Grace of Jesus VT 170

Announcements and Benediction

Dana Neff, worship leader

Postlude

Die Mainacht Op. 43, No. 2

Hope Ewy, accompanied by Jyl Ewy

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, Isaac Koehn, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Jyl Ewy and Joan Entz. Visuals: Cindy Unruh. Property Committee: Dorian Funk

for those served and those who serve—consider applying or sharing this opportunity. <https://careers.northgroupconsultants.com/#/jobs> Learn more: mds.org/employment

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/>

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

Announcements

The offering for May 3 will be for Bethel College. 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 19—158; Sunday school—127.

Thanks to everyone who attended our youth group auction last Wednesday. The auction brought in over \$10,400. It is with grateful hearts, we thank you for supporting the FMC Youth Group in our efforts to grow in faith and serve with Christ's love.

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.



Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be Tuesday-Friday evenings May 26-29 from 5:00-7:30pm at Bethel College Mennonite Church (2600 College Ave, North Newton) and May 31 Worship at 10:00am (in Athletic Park). Evening VBS is for any and all children who have just completed Preschool (Age 4) through 4th grade. VBS will conclude with a Sunday morning worship on May 31 for ALL ages beginning at 10:00 AM in Athletic Park (700 W 1st St, Newton), immediately followed by games & crafts, fellowship and a potluck lunch. Please register your child/ren online **by May 4th** using this link (or scan the QR code): <https://forms.gle/8A7mo7dBEDuhSQ8a6> VBS is a joint venture of Bethel College Mennonite Church, Faith Mennonite Church, First Mennonite Church, Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania, New Creation Fellowship Church, and Shalom Mennonite Church.

Updates from the Sharp family and Eli Regier are posted on the Gathering Area bulletin board.

For Your Prayers

Bethel College Mennonite Church is hosting a conscientious objector resource night on Wednesday, April 29, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. This event is designed for young people, ages 16-25, who would consider claiming conscientious objector status if the draft were reinstated. We will have printed information, people available for consultation, and materials to begin a C.O. file. Participants are welcome to bring a tablet or laptop if they would like to write their C.O. statement on-site. Contact Joanna Harader for more information. (joanna@bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org)

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.**

Last announcement—Please consider volunteering for Childcare During Worship. Volunteers are asked to supervise and play with children ages 2 to 5 years old for approximately 35 minutes following the children's feature of the worship service, so their parents are able to fully participate in worship. Our volunteer team is currently depleted enough that one of our volunteers staffs the childcare room every Sunday and is unable to participate in a full worship service. This is not sustainable and a full team of volunteers is needed in order to keep this resource available for parents of FMC. Please consider volunteering in the childcare room so that this dedicated volunteer can attend worship occasionally. Safe Sanctuaries training required and can be arranged as needed. Contact Amy Funk at amygoering@gmail.com or 316-284-7208 if you are able to help fill our team.

Community Announcements

PLANNED GIVING SEMINAR—Wednesday, April 29, 4:30-5:30 PM, at the Newton Public Library. Hosted by the Newton, North Newton, Hesston and Halstead Community Foundations. A planned gift is more than a financial decision ... it's a lasting expression of what matters most to you. Through thoughtful estate planning, you can create permanent sup-

port for the causes and community you love. All are welcome to learn how a simple act of planning today can shape the future of your community for generations to come. Hear directly from trusted professionals and local neighbors who have already taken this meaningful step.

The Newton Et Cetera Shop turns 50! In 1976 the Newton Et Cetera Shop opened for business with the mission to monetarily support Mennonite Central Committee. There have been many changes over the years, but this mission remains. Currently 90% of our proceeds are given to MCC and 10% are used for grants for local non-profits. Our donations to MCC over the last 50 years total **\$4,546,591!** That's impressive! We are grateful for our generous donors, our supporting churches and the countless volunteers and staff over the years who have made this possible. Please join us for a kick-off anniversary celebration on **Thursday, April 30** (our actual anniversary date!) at the shop in Newton, 619 N. Main, during our business hours of 10-5:30 for hotdogs (while they last) and a cookie celebration with the Newton Chamber from 4:30-5:30 pm. Tours of the shop will be available from 4:30-5:30 pm. Also, the Silent Auction is back for one week, April 27-May 2 as part of the celebration. Items for auction are displayed in the shop or check out social media to see the premium and vintage items being auctioned. Call the shop with your bid at 316-283-9461. Other special events will be held throughout the summer with a celebration event being planned for special guests in September! Thank you for your support of the Newton Et Cetera Shop as we seek to live out our vision to "Share God's love and compassion with all creation - within our thrift shop, and in our local and global community."

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"

MDS U.S. Executive Director - Lititz, PA—Mennonite Disaster Service is inviting applications for its next Executive Director—a unique opportunity to lead an organization that brings tangible hope to people recovering from natural disasters. MDS staff and volunteers work together to repair and rebuild homes for those who would not otherwise have the means to recover, modeling Christ's love through every act of service. The Executive Director will provide strategic, spiritual, and operational leadership, ensuring that MDS remains strong, mission-aligned, and ready to respond when communities need help most. This role calls for a collaborative leader with significant experience developing teams, engaging volunteers, and navigating the complexities of nonprofit and disaster-response work. A commitment to the Anabaptist faith and peace position is essential. If you're inspired by the idea of leading a ministry that transforms lives—both