

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 17

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

Tuesday, May 19

5:30 PM Outreach, Mission and Peace Commission Meeting

Wednesday, May 20

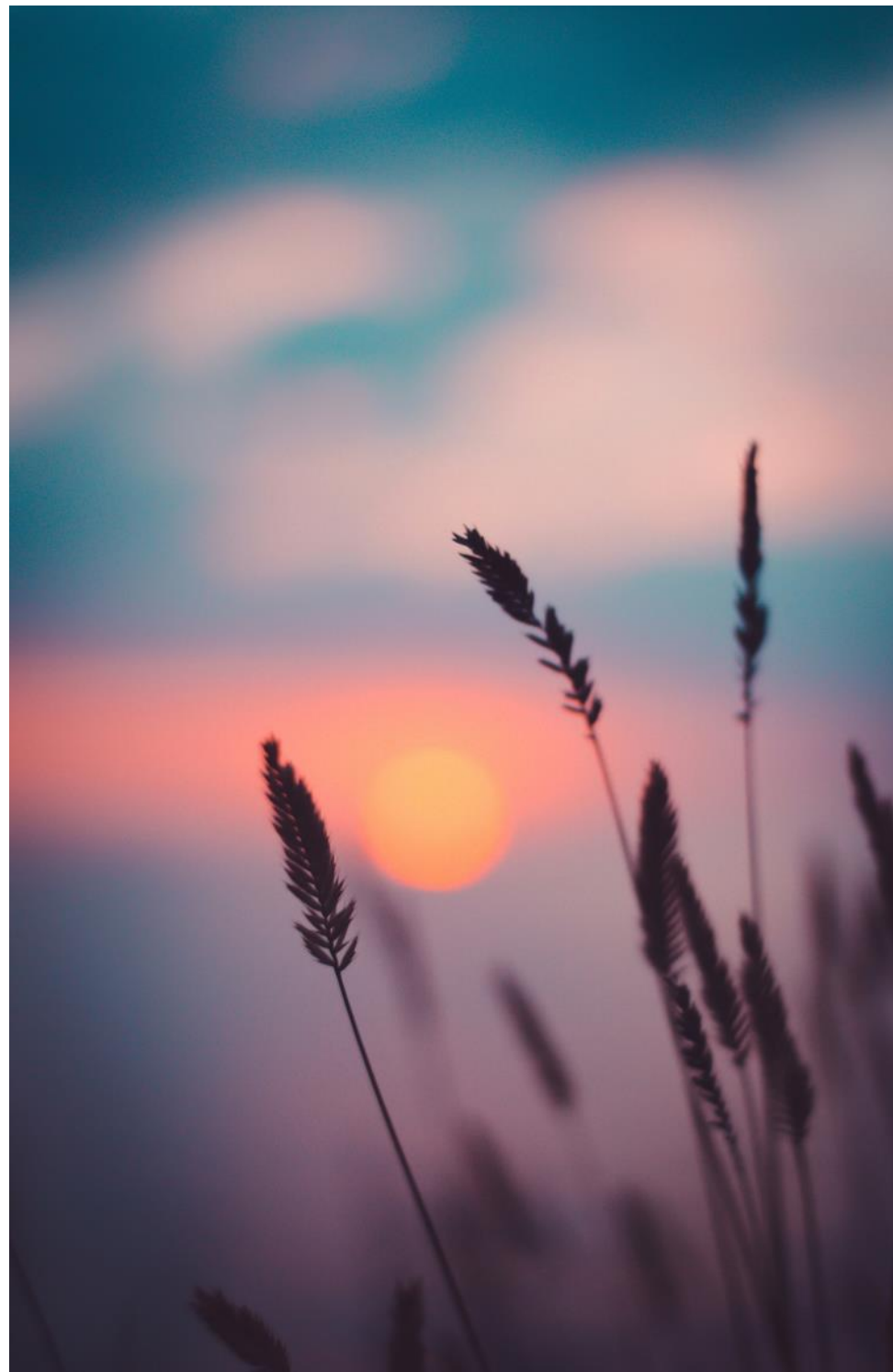
10:00 AM Staff Meeting

Thursday, May 21

6:30 PM Caregiving and Membership Commission
7:00 PM NAMI—Room 224

Sunday, May 24

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



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



Heaven and Earth

May 17, 2026

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Gathering

Welcome

Judy Murphy, worship leader

Meditation Music

Meditation on Darwall's 148th

Amanda Sauerwein

Call to Worship

Judy Murphy, worship leader

Songs for worship

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship VT 25

Come Away from Rush and Hurry VT 9

Listening

Children's Time

Peter Wintermote

**Children are welcome in our worship space. For those who wish to make use of it, we have supervised playtime available in Room 234 for children ages 2-5.*

Prayer for Offering—Local Mission

Judy Murphy

Scripture Reading

Genesis 2:4-9, 15-22, 3:8-13, 22-24

Judy Murphy

Sermon

The Formation and Breaking of Heaven and Earth

Pastor Luke Unruh

Response Song

As We Rise, O God, to Meet You VT 39, v. 1-2, 4-5

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Luke Unruh

Sending

Sending Song

The Lord Lift You Up VT 832

Announcements and Benediction

Judy Murphy, worship leader

Postlude

He is Exalted

Amanda Sauerwein

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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, Eric Murphy, and Alex Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Amanda Sauerwein. Visuals: Carol Goering. Property Committee: Kevin Hamm *Photo by Ann Savchenko on Unsplash)*

Announcements

Items needed for the Retreat Center are shower curtains (opaque white preferred), queen mattress pads, queen comforters and queen fitted & flat sheets. Three queen beds were added for a total of 4 rooms with queen beds and camp does not have enough queen-sized bedding. Camp Mennoscah has also relied on a summer staffer with a good camera (digital SLR with interchangeable lenses) and camp needs its own camera for both summer and year-round use. A simple "point and shoot" camera no longer fits camp's needs. Donations can be either funds or the items themselves.

Scholarship funds are needed! First time campers are reaping the benefits of the first time camper scholarship, but there are limited funds for returning campers. Camp is an important part of faith development and building a community of faith. This is an easy and amazing way to support youth in their faith journey. Contact camp at 620-297-3290, write a check or donate online at https://tithely.com/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/278483 with "scholarship fund" in the memo. (See camp address below.)

Plenty of room at the inn! Summer youth camps are not yet filled to overflowing, which would fill this sacred space called Camp Mennoscah with abounding joy. Full camps increase the energy and joy exponentially. 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/>

Alumni Cookout on the Green: Friday, July 17, 6:00-8:00 PM. Meet Interim President Wynn Goering '77; fellowship with fellow alumni; food provided by the alumni office; live music; activities for the kids.

The offering for May 24 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 May 10—126; Sunday school—116.

Yearbook update—

The Nurture Commission would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Camp Mennoscah Scholarship fund. Through your generosity, 18 young people from First Mennonite and Casa Betania are able to attend camp this summer!

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 5:00-7:30 PM, 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.

Congratulations to our High School & College Graduates—Hope Ewy & Hannah Gaertner—Newton High School; Luke Myers—Chanute High School; Evelyn Gaertner— associates from Hesston College; & Madelynn Hamm—Eastern Mennonite University.

For Your Prayers

Community Announcements

MCC Sale Celebration: Join us for a special evening of fellowship and gratitude on Friday, June 5, 6:00 PM, at the Maynard Knepp and Carol Duerksen Farm, 1582 Falcon, Hillsboro, as we celebrate the Kansas Mennonite Relief Sale! This celebration is a reflection on a very successful decade for KMRS. An Appreciation Dinner will be provided at no cost for all who volunteered, attended, and supported the Sale. Enjoy an evening of music and a special presentation to MCC. Please bring lawn chairs and RSVP to Barb at 620-543-6863 (call/text) or bj.reeves@live.com **by May 18**. We look forward to celebrating with you!

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. Lee and Deb Penner are part of our local affiliate's Family Support Group that meets monthly at our church. **NAMIWalks** is **NAMI's** (National Alliance on Mental Illness) major fundraiser of the year. Registration and check-in opens at 9:00 AM, at Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 S. Main, Hesston. The 1.4 mile walk around the Hesston College Campus will begin at 10:00 AM. Please consider a donation to this vital organization. If you prefer to donate by 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 Questions? Contact Deb Penner, **NAMIWalks Mid-Kansas** Walk Manager, at 316-288-0354 or 620-869-1143.

This is the final week to visit Kauffman Museum's current special exhibit, "Voices of Conscience: Peace Witness in the Great War." The exhibit closes on Sunday, May 24, with a program by Sara Judge Keckeisen, Topeka, speaking on "The Cost of Conscience: One Mennonite Family's Experience in World War I," at 3:00 PM, in the museum auditorium. Keckeisen retired in 2019 after 30 years as a librarian at the Kansas State Historical Society, and remains busy writing family histories.

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/>

Only one month before Youth Camps begin! Most needed are a head cook for PreJunior 1, June 21-25, and a nurse for Junior 2, July 19-24. Kitchen staff is needed for June 21-25 and July 5-9 (both PreJunior camps). Other weeks are filled--thank you to everyone who is volunteering! Support staff will stay in the Retreat Center, unless a group reserves the building during the week. Please contact Camp Mennoscah at olivia.bartel@campmennoscah.org or 620-297-3290 to volunteer. If Olivia has to cook, it will be three meals of crackers and cheese. (She's not serious about the crackers and cheese, but please tap some shoulders.)

Hesston College to host annual Lark Open golf tournament—Hesston College will host the annual Lark Open golf tournament on Saturday, May 30, at Hesston Golf Park. Check-in opens at 7:30 AM, for the four-person scramble event with a shotgun start at 8:00 AM. The tournament features many team and individual prizes, hole-in-one prizes and raffle prizes. For more information visit hesston.edu/lark-open-info. The deadline to register is May 27.

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/>

Please join us for the Newton Mid-Kansas Symphony Summer Chamber concert on Sunday, June 7, 3:00 PM, in the Hesston Mennonite Church. Winds and brass take the stage as a flute quartet, woodwind trio, wind sextet, and brass quintet play works by Barber, Mozart, Weber and Castérède. Advance tickets for sale online, and at Faith and Life Bookstore. Tickets will also be available the day of the concert at the door. <https://nmkso.org/tickets/>

WDC Annual Assembly—Save the date! Please join us for the delegates and friends WDC Annual Assembly, August 7-9, 2026, at Iglesia Luz del Evangelio, Dallas, TX in person or virtual. Our theme is "Becoming God's People." Fun for all ages.