

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, August 2

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service—Cookies, Coffee, and Conversation - We will help seat people in mixed age groups and provide a set of intentional conversation prompts and activities suitable for all ages.

3:00 PM Casa Betania service

Wednesday, August 5

10:00 AM Staff Meeting

Sunday, August 9

9:15 AM Sunday School—Hymn sing! Come ready to request your favorites!

10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Laura

3:00 PM Casa Betania service

Six Practices That Grow Faith



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, KS

Six Practices That Grow Faith: Celebrate August 2, 2026

.....

Gathering

Welcome

Ken Regier, worship leader

Meditation Music

I Feel Your Spirit
Ben's Band

Call to Worship

Ken Regier, worship leader

Songs for Worship

From North and South, From East and West VT 460
Light of the Stable

Listening

Children's Time

Andrea Regier

**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 5 and under.*

On Mission with Christ

Andrea Regier on her summer with *The Neighboring Movement*

Prayer for Offering—Scholarship Fund

Ken Regier

Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 8:9-12, Luke 15:25-32
Ken Regier

Sermon

Six Practices That Grow Faith: Celebrate
Pastor Luke Unruh

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Laura Goerzen

Sending

Sending for Madelynn Hamm serving with MCC's SALT program in Nepal

Sending Song

On The Wings of an Eagle

Announcements and Benediction

Ken Regier, worship leader

Postlude

Hosanna
Ben's Band

.....

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, Isaac Koehn, Ryan Goertzen-Regier and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Ben's Band. Visuals: Carol Goering. Property Committee: Alan Entz

Announcements

Happy Birthday!



Want to learn more about First Mennonite?

Scan the QR code or fill out the purple or green card in your pew and a pastor will reach out to you!



Have you ever wished you could listen to your favorite worship songs performed by our outstanding FMC bands anytime you want. Now you can by downloading your favorite songs and performances from the new FMC Playlist. This QR code will take you to a site that has 46 songs that you can download and listen to anytime. You can download one or all of the songs. Check back periodically as new songs will be added from time to time.

OUR VISION—Together in Christ: rooted deeply, reaching widely, loving well

OUR MISSION—With Jesus as our center, we are called to be:

- Faith-Focused
- Mission-Minded
- Community-Connected

The offering for August 9 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.

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.

Worship Bags available for children! There are brightly colored worship bags at each entry table that are available for children to take with them to their seats during the worship service. Inside the bags are a variety of fidgets, worship tools, and quiet art options for children to use throughout the service. **Please put all items back in the bag and return the bag to its box at the end of each service.**

FMC worship attendance for July 26—145; Sunday school—130.

Local Mission offering for July 19 and 26—\$16,800; Local Mission online—\$1,580.

August Sunday school: For the month of August we will be offering intergenerational Sunday school options for all ages. Below is our schedule for August:

- **August 9**—Hymn sing! Come ready to request your favorites!
- **August 16**—Church Safety Sunday led by Kevin Hamm and Nurture Commission, special start time of 9:30 AM.
- **August 23—FMC Service Day!** we will worship God by serving our local and global neighbors. Whether you are young or old, prefer to serve inside or outside, or prefer to serve standing up or sitting down, we will have a service project for you! Please sign up for your preferred service assignment in the Gathering Area and plan to arrive on August 23 promptly at 9:15 AM, so that you can receive instructions and connect with your service group before dispersing to job sites. A picnic lunch will be served at 12:00 PM, at the church. What to bring:
 - Consider wearing your FMC t-shirt, or something yellow. Additional t-shirts will be available that morning.
 - A blanket or lawn chairs for the meal (tables and chairs reserved for those who need them.)
 - Table service
 - A desire to serve like Jesus!
- **August 30**—We will begin our fall Sunday school schedule

For Your Prayers

Serve by packing MCC school kits! One of the service projects we will have available at First Mennonite on August 23 will be packing school kits. This year MCC has a goal of packing 30,000 kits by the end of August. **Let's see if FMC can pack 100 kits!** If each household purchases supplies for 2 kits, we can do it! Supplies for one kit include:

Contents (NEW items only)

- 4 spiral or perforated-page notebooks—8.5 in x 10.5 in; 70 sheets each (US)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm (inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 4 new black or blue ballpoint pens

College Scholarship Fund update. The Scholarship Committee, parents and students who are recipients of scholarship awards appreciate the continued support of the college scholarship program. It is a blessing to have a congregation who believes in and assists students from FMC who are pursuing higher education at a Mennonite Christian college. For the 2026 Fall semester, a total of \$1,458 was paid out to Bethel College for three scholarships; and \$500 was paid out to Hesston College for one scholarship. The students and their parents plus the Scholarship Committee appreciate the past and current generosity of the congregation.

Community Announcements

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the annual Mennonite Women in Mission. Women's & Girls (ages 8 - high school) Retreat at Camp Mennoscah on September 12-13. Forms are available on the website for printing mail in registration, although online is preferred & easy! Detailed schedule information and registration is at mennonitewomeninmission.org. Retreat starts at 10:00 AM, Saturday with SoulCollage with Elizabeth Eells, comforter tying for MCC, & the Faith & Life bookstore open. The retreat theme is *My Time is in Your Hands* with session speakers Melissa Atchison & Audrey Ratzlaff. Girls leaders are Schyler Entz and Emily Brandt with an additional girls tie dye bandana session with Marla Sawatzky Rowe. Join us for fun, fellowship, & inspiration! Email mennonitewomeninmission@gmail.com questions.

MCC Immigration Learning Tour, November 1-6 – Sign up today for this immigration focused learning tour in South Texas and Mexico. This tour will focus on education related to a range of matters surrounding immigration, detention and death at the U.S./ Mexico border by giving you the opportunity to engage directly with MCC partners who are leading immigration work in the region. Questions? Contact abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org and sign up online today at mcc.org/tx-immigration-learning-tour!

Art, Improv, and Lego are Worship, Too! Kids Meet Christ invites you to a fun community event for EVERYONE—parents, children, leaders, and anyone who wants to see what is possible when all ages are fully engaged in worship. Talashia Keim Yoder, pastor at College Mennonite Church in Goshen, IN and faith formation extraordinaire, will guide us in exploring worship that works for everyone. Saturday, September 12, 9:30 AM–2:30 PM, at First Mennonite Church in Hutchinson, KS. *Breakfast and lunch included. Morning program is for all ages. The afternoon session will be separate adult and children's workshops.* **Register at this link:** <https://forms.gle/AhLK7yB2ZLqV1jwo6>

Safe Church: Nurturing a Healthy Congregation - WDC church members and leadership teams are invited to a workshop on **Sunday, August 16, 2:00-4:00 PM, at Hesston Mennonite Church**, exploring ways to make policies for abuse prevention and response accessible to all in the congregation, and steps toward empowering the whole congregation to participate in building a safe church culture. This in-person workshop will be in the Community Center at Hesston Mennonite Church, 309 S. Main Street in Hesston, KS, facilitated by Nancy Kauffmann, Senior Consultant for Safe Church at Mennonite Church USA, and Heidi Regier Kreider, Conference Minister for Western District Conference. The workshop is free, but registration is requested. Register by calling WDC at 316-283-6300. A donation basket will be available at the workshop to support MC USA's Safe Church ministry, with thanks to Hesston Mennonite Church for hosting Nancy Kauffman for the weekend.

Online Short Course: Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible: Sept. 16 – Oct. 27. Join Paul Keim, PhD, and Drew Strait, PhD, to study pertinent Scripture passages and reflect on how these texts contribute to a robust and biblically based practice of peace and justice today. This online short course of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary lasts six weeks. No grades, no papers! CEUs available. Register by Aug. 26 to save \$50. ams.edu/online-short-courses

Sr. Finance Assistant for Mennonite Mission Network to work at our Elkhart, IN location. Remote work may be available on occasion with supervisor's permission. JOB SUMMARY: Manage international financial transactions, administer cash mgmt duties, oversee fixed asset accounting. Position will be finance subject matter expert for accounts payable & special projects. working in a financial or banking environment; and required skills (2 years exp) in: MS Office Suite. For detailed description go to Mennonite Mission website. Apply online at <https://www.mennonitemission.net/employment/>