

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 13

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Luke
3:00 PM Casa Betania service

Monday, September 14

7:00 PM Peace Pod—FH

Wednesday, September 15

10:00 AM Staff Meeting
7:00 PM Youth Group
7:00 PM Men's Bible Study—Warkentin Room

Saturday, September 19

8:00 AM Men's breakfast—FH

Sunday, September 20

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service—Pastor Laura
3:00 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



PURSUING God's Justice IN A THIRSTY LAND



*"Let justice roll on like a river,
righteousness like a never-failing stream."*

— AMOS 5:24

LISTEN RESEARCH ACT

TOGETHER
FOR OUR
COMMUNITIES.
FOR GOD'S
KINGDOM



FAITH COMMUNITIES ORGANIZING FOR JUSTICE

- Buhler Mennonite
- Chapman UMC
- First Mennonite Hutchinson
- First Mennonite Newton
- First Presbyterian Manhattan
- First UMC Junction City
- Foundation of Life Ministries
- Grace Episcopal
- New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist
- New Resurrection
- Peace Lutheran
- Pretty Prairie UMC
- Sacred Heart Cathedral
- Salina Mennonite
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- St. Isidore's
- St. John's Lutheran
- St. Matthew's Episcopal
- St. Paul's Episcopal
- St. Thomas More
- Trinity UMC Hutchinson
- Trinity UMC Salina
- Trinity Heights UMC
- Wamego First UMC
- Woodbine UMC

Discern Between Justice and Mercy

September 13, 2026

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Gathering

Welcome

Casson Schmidt, worship leader

Meditation Music

Melody Bontrager

Call to Worship

Casson Schmidt

Songs for Worship

Let Us Build a House VT 36

Praise with Joy the World's Creator VT 428

Listening

Children's Time

Peter Miller

**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.*

Prayer for Offering—Local Mission

Casson Schmidt

Scripture Reading

Micah 6:8, Luke 10:25-37

Casson Schmidt

Sermon

Discern Between Justice and Mercy

Pastor Luke Unruh

Response Song

Light Dawns on a Weary World VT 205

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Luke Unruh

Sending

Sending Song

For the Healing of the Nations VT 705

Announcements and Benediction

Casson Schmidt

Postlude

Melody Bontrager

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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, Joey Menninga, Brian Kennell, and Eric Murphy are operating the necessary systems for our worship. Musicians: Jeff and Addie Kauffman, Melody Bontrager. Visuals: Amy Regier. Property Committee: Alan Entz

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

Announcements

The offering for September 20, 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.**

Local Missions: Thank you for all your contributions to Local Missions. This month we received \$1,372 more than we spent. However for the year we still have a deficit of \$49,525. This means that we need to receive \$10,600 each Sunday until the end of the year in order to end in the black. Whatever you can give to help with this deficit will be greatly appreciated. ~Financial Stewardship Committee

FMC worship attendance for September 6—125; Sunday school—125.

Display in the Library Showcase—The presentation of artwork by Gene Eschleman, a resident of Presbyterian Manor, consists of hand carved wooden disks. There is a disk for each book of the Bible. The work was completed by hand carving each image with an Exacto knife. The artist, an ordained minister, desires that we give honor to God as we view the display.

The next Men's Breakfast is Saturday, September 19, at 8:00 AM, in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee will be ready at 8:00 AM and full breakfasts will be ready by 8:30 AM. The main menu as always is bacon, eggs, bacon, pancakes/french toast, and bacon. Come join us for great conversation and food. You are welcome to join in on the cooking or contribute some eggs, bacon or other food. You are also welcome to come and just eat. Dads are encouraged to bring their kids.

SAVE THE DATE! Our church retreat at Camp Mennoscah will take place on November 7 and 8. More information coming soon!

Bethel College Choir visits us on Sept. 27! The Bethel College Choir will provide additional music for our worship service at First Mennonite on September 27. We will celebrate their presence with us with a potluck afterwards. Please bring additional food to share with our college guests.

For Your Prayers

Coming soon! Wednesday Community Nights will start again on October 7. A meal will be served from 5:45pm - 6:30pm. Children's singing will be from 6:30pm - 6:45pm. Activities and open fellowship time will be available afterwards. Stay tuned for more info!

Community Announcements

Newton Et Cetera Shop current needs: men's, women's, & children's clothing. We will be closed Monday, September 14, for Fall/Halloween setup. The Newton Et Cetera Shop is celebrating 50 years of serving the local area and contributing to the missions of MCC and many local organizations throughout September. Beginning September 1, two \$5 gift cards will be given out daily to customers selected by staff and volunteers. Also, each Saturday in September, donors will be given a homemade monster cookie and a 20% off coupon for their next purchase. We thank you for your continued support and patronage of the shop!

Now in the Regier Art Gallery in Luyken Fine Arts Center at Bethel College – “Alive with Wonder,” fabric art by Hattie Lee Mendoza, through September 17. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM and Sunday, 2:00-4:00 PM.

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 & Office Open Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM-4:30 PM.

Bluestem Communities is launching a new semester of the Bluestem U lifelong learning program for individuals age 55+. Three courses will be offered, for \$50 each. Registration and more information is available at bluestemu.org. The semester courses are as follows: “Chemistry 101: Chemistry in and around us”, taught by Jim Yoder; “Suing for Peace: A guide to resolving life's conflicts”, taught by Robert Hull, Keren Kandel, Erin Omole, Bill Rich, Tim Voth and Aimee Voth Siebert; and “Buggies, Bonnets and Boundaries: A study of Amish faith, life and culture”, taught by John Sharp.

Fall Fest is coming and BCWA welcomes donations of homemade peppernuts, whole fruit pies, poppyseed rolls, zwieback, cinnamon rolls and other home-made goodies. We are happy to have donated craft items to sell as well. We would also welcome help staffing the Market in the Round, located in the Luyken Fine Arts Center. If you would like to volunteer or have questions about donations, please contact Valerie Klaassen at jvklaaassen@gmail.com. Donated baked and craft items can be brought to Luyken Fine Arts Center music library on Friday, October 16, between 1 and 5 pm or on Saturday, October 17, between 7 and 9 am.

Thank you for your generous support! As WDC nears the conclusion of its fiscal year on September 30, we are grateful for congregations that have increased their giving this past year, new givers making monthly contributions, and the ongoing financial support of faithful donors and congregations throughout the year! This has made it possible for WDC to offer faith formation resources, connect congregations with the Kids Meet Christ program, support ministerial credentialing, equip congregations for pastoral transition, welcome two new church communities into WDC, coach church planters, promote immigration justice resources, host Leader Forums and ministers' retreats, and much more. We invite you to help WDC end the fiscal year on a strong note, by making a contribution online or you can send your check to WDC at PO Box 306, North Newton, KS 67117. Thank you!

Mennonite Mission Network - Open table: Online Service Q&A - Tuesday, Sept 15 at 8:00pm ET - Thinking about service? You don't have to have it all figured out. Whether you're thinking of a gap year or considering Mennonite Voluntary Service or Service Adventure, you're in the right place. Bring your questions to this informal, no-pressure conversation. Learn about current service opportunities for all age groups, what daily life is like and how to take your next step. Come with one question or twenty. We're here to help you explore.

WDC Fund Development Coordinator opening: Western District Conference seeks a quarter-time Fund Development Coordinator. Responsibilities include nurturing congregational communications and donor relationships, relating to congregational advocates, working with the Stewardship Commission to coordinate fundraising initiatives, and engaging with Everence as a resource for financial stewardship. For more information see the position description on our website. Interested candidates should send a resume, and names and contact information for three references to Conference Minister Heidi Regier Kreider at heidirk@mennowdc.org.

Mennonite Central Committee is evaluating, working with local partners, and responding to recent disasters, please join us in supporting: Nepal flooding response: MCC is responding to the impact of deadly flooding in Nepal. Please pray for the people who have been affected by this disaster. MCC is working with local partners to provide food, supplies and trauma support to those in need. We welcome your donations. Donate to MCC's response at mcc.org/nepal-flooding **Colombia earthquake:** MCC is also providing emergency relief in Colombia following the 7.4-magnitude earthquake. Donate to MCC's response at mcc.org/colombia-earthquake