

**New Creation Fellowship Church**  
 a member of Mennonite Church USA  
 221 Muse Street Newton KS 67114  
 Church office: 316.283.1363  
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# New Creation Fellowship Church

January 29, 2023

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*At New Creation we seek to celebrate our differences as gifts and blessings - our differences in color, gender, sexual orientation, and the many other ways we are categorized by the world. You are welcome in this place as we journey together, discerning how to follow Jesus more faithfully.*

## PRAYER requests

**Western District Conference:** Pray for wisdom and insight for the WDC Executive Board, as it implements action steps growing out of its anti-racism audit completed last year.

**Mennonite Mission Network:** requests prayer for the Tucson, Arizona, Mennonite Voluntary Service unit, made up of Michaela Esau, Cade Fisher, Jessie Landis and Andrea Troyer. The MVSers help extend the ministries of their host congregation, Shalom Mennonite Fellowship, by working with the Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Coalition and adult literacy, immigration and refugee rights, and environmental protection programs.

Prelude

Gathering Song: I love to Tell the Story .....VT 761

Welcome and Announcements ..... Megan Thompson

Singing Together:

My Latest Sun Is Sinking Fast.....VT 662

See Whose Glory Fills the Skies .....VT 274

Yodel Song.....Screen

Offering

Children's Time ..... Kristin Neufeld Epp

Scripture Reading ..... 1 Corinthians 3:11

Teaching ..... Mitch Stutzman  
*The Dangerous Work of Reading Scripture Together*

Sharing and Praying ..... “O God, hear us”

Sending Song: I Go Before You..... Screen / HOS140

Benediction ..... Mitch Stutzman

**Contributions Jan 22:** General Fund: \$441.00

	<u>January 29</u>	<u>February 5</u>
Worship leader	Megan T	Christy SS
Song leader	Chuck N	?
Musicians	Bonnie N & Michelle V	Ian GG
Sound & video	Shawna H & Micah H	George K & Galen M
Children's time	Kristin NE	Libby B
Speaker	Mitch S	Rebecca BF
Care of building	Evie & Bernard R	Galen & Becky M
Communion Servers	n/a	Rhonda H, Ruth M, Steve M and Mona K

**Scripture for Feb 5th:** Jeremiah 31:2-22 and Matthew 2:13-18

We will consider what the story of the Massacre of the Innocents can teach us about solidarity with the most vulnerable members of our society. We will think about it specifically in the context of the infant mortality rate in Harvey County--a topic currently being covered in a series of articles in the *Harvey County Now*. Content includes pregnancy loss, infant mortality, and family separation.

As a spiritual discipline and act of self-care, Audrey Ratzlaff will be taking Fridays away from work. Thanks for your help with this!

**Ash Wednesday** is February 22. Audrey is seeking input as she plans worship for that day. If you would be interested in attending and have preferences as to format (in-person, Zoom, come-and-go) and/or time of day, please share your comments with Audrey.



**MennoMedia** is commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Anabaptist movement with several projects, including an Anabaptist Community Bible. We are invited to form a Bible study group, which will meet for four sessions, reflect on three assigned passages, and contribute written notes for inclusion in this publication. If you are interested in joining this study and discussion, please contact Audrey Ratzlaff. Meeting times and format will be determined by the group.

**NCFC COVID PLAN UPDATE**

After prayerful discernment, the Administration Team has approved the following mask use statement effective February 12, 2023:

"Because at New Creation Fellowship Church, during this time of COVID, we work to be a congregation that welcomes people who are immunocompromised, who hold anxiety because of pandemic health, or are disabled, and because we are aware of inequalities present in our healthcare system, we are mindful in our practice of masking and we recommend that you join us in this practice." *This masking plan will be in effect for a 3-month trial period (Feb. 12 to April 30) and Admin team will re-assess at the end of that time. The plan may be adjusted at any time based on circumstances at the time. The plan applies to gatherings in the Sanctuary. We are grateful for the rich discussion thus far and welcome all feedback and further conversation. Thank you, Admin Team (Michelle, George and Megan T.)*

**New Creation Preschool:** Believe it or not we are starting enrollment for the 23-24 school year. Pray for the families who are trying to decide if they will send their child to kindergarten or wait a year. Pray for the families and teachers as we anticipate saying goodbye to at least 14 preschoolers.



**SAVE THE DATE!** Come join the fun at 15<sup>th</sup> annual **MCC Comforter Blitz** on March 6, 7 and 8 on the Journey Yoder Campus, one mile north of Yoder, KS. Times are Monday and Tuesday 9-5 and Wednesday 9-4. No sewing skills are required, we will teach you. Lunch is available by donation each day, or you may bring your own sack lunch. Bring snacks to share during the workday. This event is hosted by Kansas Friends of MCC to make comforters for relief to be sent to refugees or places after natural disasters. Please contact the MCC Central States office with questions at #316-283-2720, or check the Comforter Blitz Facebook Page, "Kansas MCC Comforter Blitz".

**MDS:** The January edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. <https://conta.cc/3XjseqR>

**MCC and MCUSA** are partnering in a new webinar series, *Beyond incarceration: A hard look at dismantling the prison system and building healthy communities*. Join us to learn about the ways the faith community is actively understanding and working against these complex systems of confinement. The webinars will take place on Feb. 7, Feb. 21, March 7, and March 21 at 6:30 p.m. CST/5:30 p.m. MST. They will be followed by learning tour opportunities in different parts of the U.S. Registration link: [mcc.org/beyond-incarceration-webinars](http://mcc.org/beyond-incarceration-webinars)

