

New Creation Fellowship Church

a member of Mennonite Church USA
221 Muse Street Newton KS 67114
Church office: 316.283.1363
Website: www.newcreationnewton.com



PASTOR:

Derrick Ramer 574.354.1332 ncfcnewton@gmail.com
*Pastor Derrick's normal office hours are Tue, Wed & Thur; 9-5.
He is also available outside of those hours by appointment.
Don't hesitate to contact Pastor Derrick on his cell phone at any time.*

OFFICE ASSISTANT:

Brenda Mays 316.283.1363 ncfcoffice.assistant@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM CONTACT:

Clark Baldwin 316.217.2932 cabaldwin1972@gmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM CONTACT:

Becky Miller 620.747.0351 rjbmillier31@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP and CONGREGATION RELATIONS TEAM:

Ian Gingrich-Gaylord 412.334.3164 ncfcrelations@gmail.com
Miles Reimer 316.217.1239 ncfcrelations@gmail.com
Christy Schunn-Sebes 316.772.6926 ncfcrelations@gmail.com

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.

Lectionary text for December 12:

[Zephaniah 3:14-20](#)

[Isaiah 12:2-6](#)

[Philippians 4:4-7](#)

[Luke 3:7-18](#)

Offering for Nov 28-Dec 3

General: \$2340 Sharing Fund: \$200 Jr High Youth Group: \$180
Sr High Youth Group: \$250 Preschool Fund: \$250

Western District Conference: Pray for the WDC Church Planting Commission, as they envision new initiatives and partnerships for church planting in the coming year.

Mennonite Mission Network: Delicia Bravo Aguilar and Peter Wigginton, of MMN, request prayer for the churches in Ecuador that have suffered the loss of many leaders and members, due to COVID-19. While they continue to lament their losses, pray for their strength and resilience, as new leaders come forward to continue the reconciling mission of Christ.

New Creation Fellowship Church December 5, 2021



Speaker: Audrey Ratzlaff

Sermon: *Dare to imagine God's embrace!*

Scripture: Luke 3:1-6 and Philippians 1:3-11

Worship Leader: Pastor Derrick Ramer

Music: Krista Murray

Children's Time: Rebecca Barrett-Fox

Communion Servers: Ruth M, Galen M, Mona K and Rhonda H

Care of the Building: Krista and John Murray

Focus for the second week of Advent: Imagine the wideness of God's embrace of all creatures and creation! It will widen our hearts to do the things that make for **peace**. Pull out the 'zine' card from your home Advent packet and display it to then contemplate or talk about God's embrace with your household this week.

Intergenerational Art and Fellowship: TODAY, Dec. 5th from 2 to 5 pm.

We will create an art project outside in the pavilion or along the fence that is meant to represent how our lives and stories are woven together. All are invited to bring materials needed for the project such as paper, paint, yarn, fabric, feathers, small toys, and special items tied on string, stuff from nature, beads, knitted or crocheted ropes or anything else you can imagine.

Advent Visuals: *Thank you to Mona and George Krievins for the worship visuals and Ruth Penner for the Advent banners.* The visual tableau at the front of the sanctuary has several elements. The colorful banners focus on a journey, the journey of Jesus. As his followers, we are daring to imagine a different world. Each week the suitcase will reveal a different theme to focus on during this time of worshipping God together. The suitcase is surrounded by objects that may represent comfort (rocking chair, teddy bear, a mug for a warm beverage, hand carved nativity set). We as a church body seek to comfort and encourage one another through these tumultuous times.

Christmas Baskets for Heartland Supports and Muse Apartments: We are seeking donations of items such as hats, socks, cookies, and other similar items and treats to be given to our church neighbors for Christmas. Look for a box in the back of the sanctuary to drop off donations.

Advent-Christmas-Epiphany Schedule of Events

- SUNDAY, Dec. 5: 2-5pm Intergenerational activities in churchyard: art project, care packages and fellowship
- SUNDAY, Dec. 12: 3rd Sunday of Advent, Dare to imagine God's song!
2-5pm Intergenerational activities in churchyard: art project, care packages and fellowship/singing
~~6:30 Christmas Program - CANCELLED~~
- SUNDAY, Dec. 19: 4th Sunday of Advent, Dare to imagine God's face!
2-5pm Intergenerational activities in churchyard: art project, care packages and fellowship/singing
- SUNDAY, Dec. 26: "Christmas Sunday," Dare to imagine God's robe!
- SUNDAY, Jan. 2: Epiphany Sunday, Dare to imagine God's dance!

The next **Congregational Meeting** will be Sunday Dec. 12 at 9:00 am. The meeting will end by 9:45 to give folks enough time to drive to church. We will be testing consensus on the proposed changes to the Safe Sanctuary policy from the October meeting, except the Mentor Policy which needs more conversation. We will consider the Mentor Policy in 2022.

Anabaptist World: It is time to subscribe or renew our group subscription to Anabaptist World magazine. Please send a check to NCFC for \$39 with AW in the memo line by Dec. 6.



Children: Although we are not currently providing childcare during worship, Kristin is providing coloring projects and snacks that can be picked up from the back of the sanctuary. Children are welcome to be a part of our worship.

The **Christmas program** on Dec 12 at 6:30 has been canceled. As cases of COVID rise in our county and as the hospital is filling up again, Kristin's ideas for the program no longer seem appropriate, even if masked. She is brainstorming alternatives and will let us know of new plans.

Have yourself a honkin' good holiday, December 17 from 4-6 p.m.! MCC is thrilled to host this drive-thru event again this year. Order your charcuterie box(es) today to enjoy in the comfort of your home, spread Christmas joy and order extra to give as gifts! Suggested donation per box is \$25. We're also collecting items for [MCC hygiene kits](#) at this event. **Place your order by 5 p.m. on December 9. [Details and order form are on mcc.org.](#)** Questions? Please call 316.283.2720.

The **McPherson Community Brass Choir** under the direction of Jerry Toews will give their Christmas Brass Concert Sunday, Dec. 12 at 7:30pm in the Goessel HS gym. This event is sponsored by the Goessel Ministerial Alliance. Note the location change accommodating for social distancing. Come and enjoy a festive brass Christmas concert!

Weds., Dec. 8 – Singalong to Christmas portions of Handel's *Messiah* returns in-person, 11 a.m., *Memorial Hall*, with chamber orchestra, soloists and student conductors. Scores provided. Bethel's current COVID-19 protocols require physical distancing to the extent possible and mask-wearing indoors.

Sun., Dec. 12 – Lighting of the Green returns in-person this year; 8 p.m. on the Bethel College campus.