**Pastoral Team**

**First Mennonite Church – Newton, KS**

First Mennonite Church (FMC) of Newton, Kansas seeks individuals to form a pastoral team of 2 FTE. We seek pastors to join us in our vision: together in Christ, we are rooted deeply, reaching widely, and loving well. With Jesus as our center, we are called to be faith-focused, mission-minded, and community-connected. A combination of gifts and persons will provide administration/supervision and fill pastoral roles to preach, teach, provide pastoral care, encourage outreach, assist with worship planning, empower and encourage lay leaders, lead the faith formation among the children, youth and young adults, and represent FMC in the wider community.

FMC was established in 1878 and subscribes to the Anabaptist/Mennonite theological perspective, is a member of Mennonite Church USA, and follows their salary guidelines. Over 270 active members participate in weekly worship, with an average attendance of 195, in a blend of traditional and contemporary music. Nurture and faith formation occur in active Sunday school classes which serve as discipleship groups for many in the congregation. Wednesday evening fellowship meals and activities occur jointly with Iglesia Menonita Casa Betania in fall and spring for all ages. Our youth are led and mentored by congregational members that have devoted decades of their lives to serving this age group. Hospitality is freely offered; our church is actively used by community groups such as Narcotics Anonymous and the National Alliance for Mental Illness.

FMC has a strong history of responding to and sending people of all ages to short-term and long-term service/mission opportunities in our community and around the world. We built 6 houses for people in need in the local community and several other states. We strive to live at peace with others in our community by identifying, learning about, and acting as Jesus would on anti-racism and social justice issues. Caregiving is provided both internally and externally as we experience love in Christian community. During Covid-19, we invested in equipment for live-streaming of worship services, and virtual opportunities are being used by people of all ages to stay connected. An average of 226 households watch our live-streamed service each week. In person, socially distanced worship and events occur as is safe depending on the status of Covid-19 spread in the wider community.

*December 2020*