

Bethel College Mennonite Church
 PO Box 364
 North Newton, KS 67117

NONPROFIT
 ORG
 PERMIT 352
 NEWTON KS

Return service requested

DECEMBER 2010—JANUARY 2011

Worship schedule (Check weekly bulletins and church web site, bcmc.ks.us.mennonite.net, for updates)

Worship 9:30 am — Fellowship time 10:30 am—Christian education 10:50 am

December 2010

5 2nd Sunday of Advent: Watchful waiting: Repent and reconnect!

9:00 a.m. Prelude: Rosewood Winds
 9:30 a.m. Worship with meditation by Heidi Regier Kreider and music by Junior Choir
 10:30 a.m. Refreshments and Fellowship ~ 10:50 a.m. Christian Education for all ages
 7:00 p.m. Bethel College *Lessons and Carols* service – Memorial Hall

12 3rd Sunday of Advent: Watchful waiting: Be patient!

9:00 a.m. Prelude: Soyoun Chun, assistant professor of music at Bethel College, soprano soloist
 9:30 a.m. Worship: Chancel Choir presents a cantata, *The Incarnation* by K. Lee Scott
 10:30 a.m. Refreshments and Fellowship ~ 10:50 a.m. Christian Education for all ages
 4:00 p.m. Bethel College Christmas Organ Recital – Administration Building Chapel
 8:00 p.m. Lighting of the Green - Bethel College

19 4th Sunday of Advent: Watchful waiting: See the sign!

9:00 a.m. Prelude: Newton High School Railaires directed by Donna Woolery
 9:30 a.m. Worship with meditation by Ruth R. Harder; music by Chancel Bells
 10:30 a.m. Refreshments and Fellowship ~ 10:50 a.m. Christian Education for all ages

21 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship Christmas Program featuring Rosewood Winds—BCMC Sanctuary

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve

7:00 p.m. *A Simple Christmas Pageant* by children and youth – BCMC Sanctuary
 11:00 p.m. Candlelight service of Lessons and Carols - Sanctuary

26 Christmas Sunday: Watchful waiting: Weep and rejoice!

9:30 a.m. Prelude: Organ music with Christopher Shaw
 10:00 a.m. Worship service followed by refreshments in Fellowship Hall. Bring goodies to share (no Sunday school).

January 2011

2 Epiphany: Watchful waiting: Be the sign!

(return to regular schedule with 9:30 a.m. worship) - Worship with sermon by Jim Robb
 7:00 p.m. ~ Communion service and candle-lighting in memory of BCMC members and loved ones who died in 2010.

9 Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir

16 Worship with sermon by John Bergen; music by Menno Ringers

23 Worship with sermon by Ruth R. Harder; music by Chancel Bells

30 Worship with sermon by Heidi Regier Kreider; music by Chancel Choir and Cherub Choir



KALEIDOSCOPE

BETHEL COLLEGE MENNONITE CHURCH

December 2010–January 2011/4:6



CHRISTMAS CANTATA

The Cantata *The Incarnation* by K. Lee Scott will be presented by the Chancel Choir during the 9:30 a.m. worship service on December 12.

Composer, K. Lee Scott (b. 1950), has emerged as one of America's leading composers of music for the church. He received his degree in music from the University of Alabama School of Music in Birmingham, and later also served on the faculty at the university. His many published compositions include anthems, hymns, works for



Crèche donated by Rex and Connie Esau



Crèche donated by Jim and Barb Soth

solo voice, organ, and brass. He wrote this 30-minute Christmas cantata in two stages. The first movement was composed in 1994, and the remaining sections in 1998. The centerpiece is the passage from John's Gospel. The other texts, representing five centuries, respond to the biblical truths in celebration, wonder and devotion. In lieu of the Full Orchestra version, we are using the smaller setting which involves two each of trumpets, trombones, and French horns, plus organ and timpani. This cantata was presented as a Christmas worship service at BCMC seven years ago. The Chancel Choir is looking forward to singing it again. We invite your attendance.

~ Marles Preheim, Chancel Choir Director

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES



Everyone is invited to this year's 7:00 p.m. service called, "A Simple Christmas Pageant." We will sing familiar Christmas carols, hear the story of Jesus' birth and perhaps we'll even be surprised by a special visitor! We hope you, your family and friends will join us for this special evening! (For those involved in the pageant, we will have a rehearsal on Wednesday, December 22 from 6:30-8:15 p.m.) ~ Christmas Eve planning team—Jeanette Leary, Norma Preheim, Christopher Shaw, Florine Eitzen and Ruth R. Harder

A Simple Christmas Pageant



You are also invited to a service of Lessons and Carols at 11 p.m.. This is a candlelight service featuring scripture readings and carols. It is planned by the Worship Commission.

If any of you who receive the *Kaleidoscope* by USPS mail would like to have your issue arrive as an electronic copy, that service is available through the church office. You can just send your request by email to office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net and Monica Lichti, BCMC Administrative Assistant, will make it happen.

~ Lois Goertzen and Karen Penner, *Kaleidoscope* editors

Bethel College Mennonite Church

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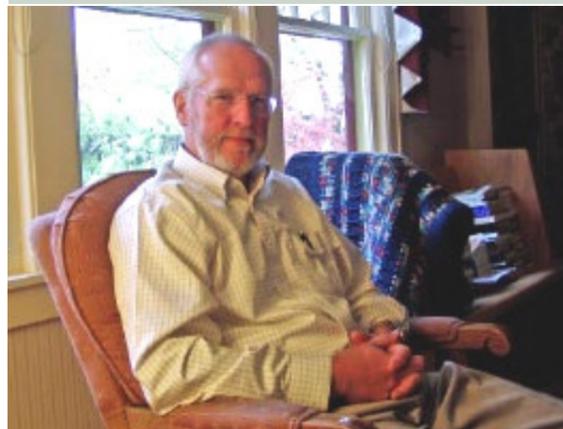
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JOHN SHERIFF "RETIRES"



The summer after the 2008-2009 school year, John and Elsie Sheriff were thinking about John's upcoming retirement. After returning from their time in Colorado, they came home to a message that John was needed at the college. This began his second interim president assignment which lasted until mid-July 2010.

During that year John felt a great support from the board, college faculty and staff and student body. John was grateful for this after speaking at the college retreat and challenging the group gathered there to "make it a wonderful year". Indeed it was. Enrollment was down, and everyone was pulling together and working to change that.

At the final event honoring John and Elsie for their untiring devotion to Bethel College, John was presented with a piece of art symbolizing his 40 years of service to the college as a professor, and the two interim

assignments. This beautiful stainless steel piece, created by David Regier of San Antonio, Texas, symbolized the many avenues John traveled down during his long time with Bethel. It is displayed on a table in John and Elsie's living room. The artist's father and sister were both Bethel grads.

Coming up for John is teaching a class on Basic Issues of Faith and Life in January, and Modern Critical Theory in Spring. Continuing in the retirement mode John and Elsie will spend significant time during our hot summers enjoying cooler weather at 9,000+ feet above sea level at their cabin in Colorado.

Best wishes for a job well done, and enjoy your leisure.
~ Lois Goertzen



FINE ARTS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS SPONSORS TOUR



On October 30, the BCMC Fine Arts Class plus a variety of others (total 25) made a tour of Marion County, in search of Mennonite history. Leland Harder and Merrill Raber led the group with the help of the Marion County Economic Development Department who provided their newly adapted school bus for such adventures. Driver Woody Crawshaw, provided a cheerful, professional and safe addition. While not accompanying the group, Bob Kreider gave inspiration and important background details.

The tour included a stop in Peabody to visit the memorial marker of the Mennonite Immigration to Kansas from Russia. The Catlin and Brunk cemeteries provided Old Mennonite stories. Then Brudertal and Johannestal ceme-

teries and their GC history was remembered by Floyd Bartel. Leland, with many deep roots in Marion County, covered the intriguing stories of the Krimmer Mennonite Brethren settlement at Gnadenau south of Hillsboro. This was followed by a one hour stop at the Mennonite Settlement Museum (Loewen house). After "drive bys" at the various General Conference and Mennonite Brethren church sites in Hillsboro, we ended up in Goessel, via the Row Villages, where we were met by historian Brian Stucky. Brian helped us tour historic sites in Goessel and then told the Alexanderwohl story while we enjoyed a late afternoon Faspa provided by women at the Alexanderwohl Church. Singing a few old songs in the sanctuary ended the day.

Many in the group had Marion County family connections and stories to tell while others were interested in just knowing more about the history of Mennonites from many different origins. In either case a fine time was enjoyed by all.
~ Merrill Raber

CASA BETANIA AND BCMC EXCHANGE VISITS



Lidia Pagán greets Suhelen and Jaime Cázares and their son after the service at BCMC

Casa Betania Mennonite Church (the Spanish-speaking church plant in Newton) and BCMC had exchange visits this Fall. On October 17, members of Casa Betania worshiped with BCMC and pastor Jaime Cázares gave a Kingdom Report telling about God's work through their congregation.

Children from Casa Betania visited BCMC Sunday school classes, and then members of Casa Betania served a delicious tostada lunch as a fund-raiser for their church. On October 24, BCMC members were invited to visit Casa Betania for worship, where the Chancel

Bells offered worship music and pastor Heidi Regier Kreider brought greetings from BCMC. BCMC is one of several Western District Conference churches partnering with Casa Betania to support their growth and ministry in our community. ~ Heidi Regier Kreider



Casa Betania service

Pictures at Casa Betania are by Vada Snider. Pictures taken at BCMC are by Austin Prouty



The service at Casa Betania

PASTOR'S CORNER— SUSAN WHEELER



Here we are again...can you believe that the holidays and season of Advent are just around the corner? I have been thinking about the *Watchful Waiting* theme chosen for worship services this Advent through Epiphany season. Waiting for God; learning to patiently watch, as well as to begin to notice anew signs of God's presence. This is a familiar theme. Personally, I relish the newness of seasons; turning the calendar page to a new month, or even the simple glory of the sunrise heralding a new day. Last week I was given the gift of holding the most beautiful new baby girl, Faith Elizabeth. Much of what provides an emotional component to special events is this element of anticipation...waiting, preparing, and watching. In the season of Advent our minds and hearts are naturally poised in anticipation of the birth of Christ.

" 'Tis the season to be jolly!" In the pastoral care realm, I am keenly aware of the steady stream of mixed emotions that holidays drum up, especially for those whose lives are caught in the sticky web of grief. How can the newly bereaved cope with this kind of anticipation, piled high as it is with usual expectations for the holidays? How does one anticipate these "happy" days with an aching heart, and inner emotional temperature mirroring the cold, sleet grey sky? "The Empty Chair, Handling Grief on Holidays and Special Occasions," authored by Susan J. Zonnebelt-Smeenge and Robert C. De Vries, is an insightful booklet. Out of a depth of experience these authors speak candidly about facing the holidays when one is grieving. They equate death to a *firestorm* and say that the feelings associated with holidays fuel this fire. Grief, they point out is the antithesis of joy and is associated with emotions of sadness, emptiness, and loneliness. The holidays seem to intensify the pain and add another layer to one's grief. What might help one cope throughout the holidays? Use the acronym DEER (drink, eat, exercise, rest) to remember the priority of caring for yourself. Think specifically about your role in celebrating the holidays, and how that role might be different now that your loved one has died. Give yourself permission to just "survive" this holiday, knowing that eventually you will come to a new and deeper understanding of each special day. Talk with others about the reality of what you are experiencing, acknowledging that your life and celebrations will feel and be different. Remember that a "something" attitude rather than an "all-or-nothing" attitude may be healthier; pick one activity you traditionally did on this occasion that has special meaning for you.

Whatever frame of mind or state of heart we find ourselves experiencing this Advent season, let us remember that God through the comfort of the Holy Spirit, has promised to be with us. Each week during Advent we will sing, *I will come to you in the silence* (Sing the Story 49). If we open our hearts to the words of this meaningful song perhaps it can become our new Christmas Carol for 2010. What an exquisite gift from God!

NEW KITCHEN USE POLICY

The Hospitality Commission has provided some guidelines for using the kitchen at BCMC. Some of these procedures have changed from in the past.

USE OF KITCHEN PRODUCTS

Paper products, food, coffee supplies will be used for all-church events only. If a Sunday school class wishes to use these products for a special party, held at the church, a donation to the Kitchen Fund would be appreciated, so products used can be replaced. If these products are used, please notify the church office of the items you will be using. If using table cloths, for use in the church, make arrangements with the church office.

BORROWED ITEMS FROM THE KITCHEN

Please notify the church office when you check out an item(s) from the kitchen. Provide the date you will borrow and the date you will return. Items must be returned promptly for church use. The borrower will be responsible for reimbursing the church for repair or replacement of any damaged or lost item.

During Fall Fest or other special college events, Bethel College or college related groups may borrow items from the kitchen. This must be requested through the church office, with inventory taken of items borrowed. These items must be returned after the event for use the next day at church. Table cloths will continue to be used for in-church events only. Only one (1) 100-cup coffee maker may be loaned out at a time.

IF YOU USE THE KITCHEN:

1. Wash all dishes, utensils and equipment used. Store in proper area.
2. Do not immerse the coffee carafes in water. Just rinse out.
3. Wipe clean tables, counter tops, stove top and sinks.
4. Do not leave ANYTHING on the gas stove burners. Double check to make sure there is nothing on the burners.
5. Put all trash in containers provided and take the bags to the dumpster outside. Replace with new trash bags located by the microwave.
6. Use correct recycle bin if you have recyclable products.
7. Take used table cloths and towels home to launder. Return promptly.
8. Leave the kitchen so it is ready for others to use.
9. Shut off all lights and fans.

Non Styrofoam Products

Bethel College Mennonite Church is making a conscious effort to no longer use any Styrofoam product in the kitchen.

NEW TABLES FOR FELLOWSHIP HALL

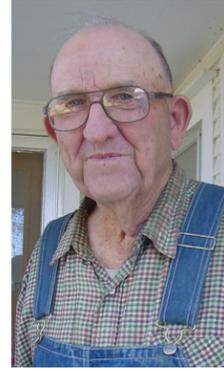
Here is a trivia question: How much do you think the old, heavy tables in Fellowship Hall weigh? If you have ever tried to move one of these Fellowship Hall tables, you know that these aren't easy to lift! This is what prompted the Kitchen Committee and Hospitality Commission to request ordering a set of new, light-weight tables for use in Fellowship Hall. The tables were purchased with Memorial Funds and they have arrived and are set up in Fellowship Hall. Thank you to Willis Harder, Margaret Sawatzky, Ron Peters, Brenda Turner, and Marvin and Joyce Holck for setting up the tables. And thank you to Bethel College for storing them for a time.



Note: The old tables are currently stored in the basement of the church. In the coming months, the Hospitality Commission, Facilities Committee, and Finance Committee will discuss what to do with these old tables. If you have suggestions, please talk to the chair of one of these leadership groups. And if anyone wants some big pieces of cardboard, please help yourself! The stack of cardboard is leaning against the stage in Fellowship Hall. ~ Ruth R. Harder



HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY HOWARD REGIER!



Howard Regier was born in Elbing, KS, on January 9, 1931, to Margaret Epp Regier and Cornelius R. Regier, who, incidentally, was born in Elbing, Germany. Howard grew up with three older siblings: Mildred (died in 2007), Otto and Menno. Howard was baptized on September 8, 1946 at Elbing Missionary Church. Howard also remembers attending Zion Mennonite Church as a young boy. Howard and his family took several memorable vacations including trips to Fort Wayne, IN, Ontario, Canada, and a train ride from Newton to Los Angeles, CA. Describing a trip to Texas, Howard said, "I just about melted. I just as soon live in Kansas and farm!" Howard attended Whitewater High School for three years and Berean Academy for one year. As a young boy, he enjoyed carpentry and other manual training. Some of Howard's carpentry work is displayed in the family home place, which was built the same year Howard was born. Howard currently resides at the family home place with his older brother, Otto (see photo). After a short time of working at a factory in Hesston, Howard returned to farming, which he enjoys doing to this day. Howard can speak both High German and Low German. Howard has a deep love for the Bible and he has enjoyed being a member at BCMC since December 29, 1968. "Faith," Howard says "is the most important thing. And the Lord has helped us." He continued, "The Lord helped us take care of Mildred and the Lord is helping us take care of each other." The following words from Psalm 8 are hung in a frame by Howard's front door: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" Howard, as you turn 80, may your years ahead be crowned with glory and honor. May you look to the heavens and observe God's handiwork and experience God's everlasting care. ~ Ruth R. Harder



HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY LOIS REGIER!



Lois (Eichelberger) Regier was born January 11, 1931, to Joel Valentine and Katie (Lauber) Eichelberger, at their family farm near Strang, Nebraska. Lois was the tenth of eleven children. Her mother's death when Lois was eleven years old was a shock to her father, with five children still at home. An older sister helped out that summer, caring for Lois who was ill with rheumatic fever and had her tonsils removed.

Lois' father decided to move the family to Hesston, Kansas, where Lois attended 9th grade at Hesston Academy. It was during World War II, and Lois recalls the strong feelings in the community about the war, and the segregation between conscientious objectors and others. Her family moved again – first to Denver where Lois attended 10th grade, and then to Shickley, Nebraska, where she graduated from high school in 1949.

Lois got a job in Wichita in a typing pool for the Sedgwick County Welfare Department where her sister was already working as a case worker. She attended one semester at Friends University, and then returned to work fulltime. In a young adult class at Lorraine Avenue Mennonite Church Lois met Stan Regier, who had recently moved to Wichita after graduating from Kansas University. They were married in 1950, and later joined by daughters Catherine and Rebecca.

Lois has good memories of the post-war years: Friendships with other young families, involvement in PTA, Campfire Girls, and church. She has also volunteered for Red Cross blood drives, senior organizations, and the Western District Conference Stewardship and Budget Committee. When both daughters were in school, Lois went to work in the catalogue department at Sears, eventually becoming a supervisor. After 23 years at Sears, Lois retired. She and Stan moved to North Newton in 1997 after having lived in Wichita for over 48 years.

Lois joined BCMC in 2000, and has offered her skills on the Finance Committee and as treasurer of Women's Fellowship. She misses Stan, who died in 2007; she remembers traveling with him to every state in the continental U.S. and a 50th wedding anniversary trip to Alaska. As Lois' life journey continues, we offer a blessing from one of her favorite scriptures, Psalm 121: "May the Lord keep your going out and your coming in, from this time and forevermore." ~ Heidi Regier Kreider

WITH OUR MEMBERS

Welcome to new members!

November 1: Ann Neufeld Rupp changed her membership from wider fellowship to full member

New members were accepted into BCMC

fellowship on:

November 7: Tony and Dianne Epp
Robert and Lorna Harder
Elvera Voth
Mel and Mary Sue Voth
Orletta Wiebe
Lee and Susan Wheeler

November 21: Brad and Suzanne Burch

November 28: Baptism of
Kimberly Mueller

Births

November 3: Faith Elizabeth Burch born to Brad and Suzanne Burch, Newton

Child Dedication

November 21: Faith Elizabeth Burch,
Daughter of Brad and Suzanne Burch, Newton

December 12: Miles Gray Brubacher, son of
Joshua and Erin Brubacher, Newton

Anniversaries



50th Anniversary
Marilyn (Kliwer) and Don Harrold
December 30, 1960



25th Anniversary
Kathy (Jackson) and
Frank Stucky
December 24, 1985

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Clockwise around the table: Mel and Mary Sue Voth, Susan Wheeler, Dianne and Tony Epp, Brad Burch, Stahli Claassen, Elvera Voth, Lorna Harder



Susan Wheeler,
Dianne and Tony Epp



Elvera Voth and
Lorna Harder



Mel and Mary Sue Voth

The Fall 2010 membership class was an opportunity for people new to BCMC to learn about the history and current ministry of BCMC, consider their gifts for participation in the congregation, and share faith stories with one another and the Deacon Commission.

Two nativity scenes are on display at BCMC during the Advent and Christmas season: They are pictured on the front page of this newsletter. The nativity upstairs in the windows by the balcony landing is a gift from Rex and Connie Esau. In the foyer by the mailboxes is a nativity loaned by Barb and Jim Soth in memory of their son Tim Soth. Tim was working on the crèche at the time of his death and had one piece finished; his friends finished the other two. Tim loved Christmas and had shared with his parents how it would be nice if his church, BCMC, would have a crèche at Christmas time. Tim died 30 years ago this Dec. 24th, in a car-truck accident; he was 19 years old. Thanks to each of these families for sharing these with BCMC!

OBITUARY



Donald P. Isaac, July 16, 1923—November 8, 2010

Donald P. Isaac, 87, of North Newton, passed away on Monday, November 8, 2010, at Kidron Bethel Retirement Center. He was born on July 16, 1923, in Naini Tal U.P., India, the son of Ferdinand Isaac and Anna Penner Isaac.

As a child of missionaries, Don spent his formative years in India. He graduated from Woodstock High School (Mussoorie, India) in 1941, Bethel College (North Newton) in 1949 and Bethany Biblical Seminary (Chicago) in 1951. Don served in Civilian Public Service for three years during WW II working in Terry, MT, Denison, IA, and Poughkeepsie, NY. He spent 30 years working for the City of Newton. Don spent the last 23 years volunteering at Community Playschool, Inc. He was an active member of Bethel College Mennonite Church since 1942. He had also been an active member of the Foster Grandparent program, Harvey

County RSVP and Woodstock Old Student Association.

On August 31, 1956, he married Arnell Wallace in Anthony, KS. She preceded him in death in 1989. He was also preceded in death by his parents; brother, Paul; sisters, Eleanore and Esther; and cousin Melvin Moyer.

Local survivors include cousins J. Harold (Rosemary) Moyer, Charles (Marty) Isaac and Ann Moyer and their families. Other survivors include friends and a host of children who attended Community Playschool and knew him as "Mr. Don".

Burial was Tuesday, November 16, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. at Greenwood Cemetery, followed by a Memorial Service at 3:30 p.m. at the Bethel College Mennonite Church. Memorial donations may be made to Community Playschool Inc., P.O. Box 364, North Newton, KS 67117.

A VISIT TO THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY CENTER



Pictured above: Hussam Madi, Dick Koontz, Heidi Regier Kreider, Judy Friesen, Patty Shelly and Karen Penner

In October, two groups from BCMC attended Friday prayers at the Muslim Community Center in Wichita. This followed our congregation's affirmation of a Witness Commission recommendation to send a message of peace to the wider Muslim community in light of current hostilities against Muslims. On October 22, senior high youth Amy Kondziola, Chris Wagoner, Mark Kreider, E Josef Voth and Nat Dick along with Cliff Dick and Ruth R. Harder visited the Center. Ruth said, "I was amazed at their hospitality. They met us at the door, visited us before the prayers, stood with us during the prayers and then visited with us after the prayers." On October 29, Church Board members Dick Koontz and Judy

Friesen, Witness Commission members Karen Penner and Patty Shelly, and pastor Heidi Regier Kreider visited and delivered a letter (see below). They are pictured

above, along with Hussam Madi, President of the Board of Administration at the Islamic Society of Wichita, who met with the group to explain more about Islam. ~ article by Heidi Regier Kreider

The letter from BCMC to the Islamic Society of Wichita follows: "Greetings from Bethel College Mennonite Church in North Newton, Kansas. We are writing on behalf of our congregation to express friendship and respect to your community of faith. We are aware of the hatred and injustice being directed towards members of the Muslim community in this nation and around the world, even by those who call themselves Christians. We lament this, and deplore such actions and attitudes which perpetuate discrimination and fear. We believe, instead, that we have been called by God to practice peacemaking and to demonstrate love and justice for people of all faiths, ethnicities and cultures. In this spirit, we pray for God's blessing to be upon you."