

This Week at BCMC: December 29, 2013-January 5, 2014

Today

11:00 a.m. Coffee and fellowship in renovated main floor gathering area — (no Sunday school)

Monday, December 30 – church office open 9 am – Noon; closed in afternoon

3:00 p.m. BCMC worship DVD—Kidron Bethel Health Care

Tuesday, December 31—New Year’s Eve - Office and building closed

Wednesday, January 1, 2014 – New Year’s Day - Office and building closed

Thursday, January 2

7:00 p.m. Church Board—Room 14

Sunday, January 5

9:30 a.m. Worship with sermon by Weldon Martens

10:30 a.m. Fellowship time with refreshments in renovated gathering area

10:50 a.m. Christian Education for all ages

7:00 p.m. New Year Memorial and Communion service – sanctuary

Staff and office schedule: The BCMC office and building will be closed New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day. It will be open again with the usual hours on Jan. 2. For pastoral care concerns from Dec. 29 – Jan 5, please call Susan Wheeler (620-327-2295 or 316-706-0887). Heidi Regier Kreider will be on vacation Dec. 30 – Jan 4.

Winter weather watch! In the event of extreme cold, snow or ice, please use caution when coming to and from the church. To check for church closing or canceled services, see the BCMC website at <http://www.bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org>. Information about church closings will also be listed on local radio and TV stations if possible.

Bethel College Mennonite Church welcomes into fellowship and membership all persons who confess faith in Jesus Christ, without regard to their race, ethnic background, gender, age, sexual orientation, education, ability, and other factors which give rise to discrimination and marginalization.

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 Email: office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net Web site: bethelcollegemennonitechurch.org

Pastor: Heidi Regier Kreider, heidi.bcmc@sbcglobal.net
 Home phone 284-0448, day off is Friday

Interim Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: Weldon Martens, weldon.bcmc@sbcglobal.net; cell phone 402-202-9276 , day off is Friday

Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care: Susan Wheeler, susanmwheeler@gmail.com
 Home phone 620-327-2295, cell phone 316-706-0887; day off is Monday

Administrative Assistant: Monica Lichti, office.bcmc@sbcglobal.net

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 Worship theme and Call to Prayer from Mennonite Church USA resources



Bethel College Mennonite Church
December 29, 2013
Prelude 9:30 a.m.,
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Christmas Sunday

*The mystery of God’s dwelling...
 in distress*

INVITING THE MYSTERY

Prelude

- | | |
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| <i>Jesus, Jesus rest your head</i> – arr. Niles | Matt Schloneger |
| <i>I saw three ships</i> – arr. Richard Walters | Matt Schloneger |
| <i>Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming</i> | Nancy Mueller |
| <i>Rise up, shepherd, and follow!</i> –arr. Hayes | Jerod Fox |
| <i>The first Noel/Pachabel's Canon</i> – arr. Clawson | Matt Schloneger
& Nathan Snyder |
| <i>Go tell it on the mountain</i> – arr. Locklair | Matt Schloneger |
| <i>Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion</i> | Christine Lehman |
| from <i>Messiah</i> – G. F. Handel; Rebecca Schloneger, violin | |
| <i>O holy night</i> –Adam | Matt Schloneger & Nathan Snyder
Eleanor Kaufman, pianist |

Call to praise Psalm 148 Esther Kreider Eash
 Heidi Regier Kreider

Greeting

***Hymn** *Good Christian friends, rejoice* (v.3 a cappella) **HWB 210**
 Eleanor Kaufman, pianist; William Eash, director

ENGAGING THE MYSTERY

Call to prayer

Leader: In both the exuberance of Christ’s birth, and the suffering of the world into which he was born, let us pause to consider God’s presence in both joy and grief. Let us confess the distress we have experienced, and have caused, that God may overcome it with grace.

People: **In the light of the Advent wreath, we receive forgiveness and celebrate the mystery of God’s dwelling.**

Hymn *Hope is a candle* (stanzas 1-5) **STS 15**
 (children come forward during hymn)

Time with children Carol Flickinger
Hymn *What child is this* (a cappella) **HWB 215**

Old Testament reading Isaiah 63:7-9

Hymns *From heav'n above to earth I come* **HWB 205**

A Christmas carol - Omer and Zona Galle family

Chorus: **Glory, glory, glory to God in the highest,
Glory, glory, and on this earth be peace!**

The first Noel (a cappella) **HWB 199**

'Twas in the moon of wintertime **HWB 190**

Gospel reading Matthew 2:13-23

Kingdom report Nathan Toews

Hymn *It came upon a midnight clear* (a cappella) **HWB 195**

Epistle reading Hebrews 2:10-18

Scripture response

Leader: For the Word of God that dwells with us in Jesus,

All: Thanks be to God!

CELEBRATING THE MYSTERY

***Hymn** *Where is this stupendous stranger* **HWB 200**

Prayer of God's people

Sung prayer *Holy child within the manger* **STS 28**

Offering

To learn more about BCMC or share a prayer request,
please fill out a card from the pew rack and place in offering plate.

Offertory

Those with December birthdays are invited to come forward to
receive a blessing (bring hymnal for dedication hymn)

***Dedication hymn** *Gloria* **HWB 204**

Sing unison once, then twice in 2-part canon
(south side, north side)

***Dedication prayer**

***Closing hymn** *Joy to the world* (a cappella) **HWB 318**

***Benediction**

***Benediction response**

***Postlude**

*All who are able are invited to stand

HWB = *Hymnal: A Worship Book*

STS = *Sing the Story*

Welcome visitors and friends! May you sense God's presence at BCMC. Personal hearing devices are at the north sanctuary entrance. The new nursery at rear of sanctuary is available during worship for families with infants and toddlers. Following Time with Children, children receive activity bags to use during worship (return to baskets at the entrance as you leave). We invite members and visitors to fill out welcome/prayer cards located in pew racks and place them in the offering plates for response by pastoral staff.

Today's Kingdom Report is by BCMC member Nathan Toews, who serves with Mennonite Central Committee in Colombia, and works with CEAS - Coordinación Eclesial para la Acción Psicosocial (Church Coordination for Psychosocial Action), an initiative of Mennonite, Mennonite Brethren and Brethren in Christ Churches of Colombia to strengthen response capability of local churches to the needs of victims of armed conflict, threats, kidnapping and displacement.

BCMC's annual New Year's memorial and communion service will take place Sun., Jan. 5, 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. During this service we will light candles in memory of BCMC members and other friends and loved ones who have died in 2013, and share in the Lord's Supper together. All are welcome to join in this time of worship, remembrance and hope.

Thank you for your generous financial support of BCMC in 2013 through giving to the operating budget, Living Stones and other special funds. Contributions to be counted for this year should be turned in by today, Dec. 29.

Are you interested in learning more about BCMC, or becoming a member of the congregation? An orientation class will be offered in several Sunday-afternoon sessions in Jan. and/or Feb. 2014. To participate, contact Heidi Regier Kreider at heidi.bcmc@sbcglobal.net. or 283-3667. Schedule will be set once participants are confirmed.

BCMC Living Stones update: The Hospitality Commission will decide on a new name for the renovated foyer area. Your suggestions for a name are invited! Write an idea on the bulletin board in the main entrance.

On January 26, BCMC's renovated space will be dedicated as part of the worship time. At noon that day, the senior high youth will serve a soup luncheon as a fund-raiser, which will be followed by a congregational meeting. Agenda will be put in church boxes on Jan. 19.

The Bible in 90 Days will be a BCMC Sunday school class to run Jan. 5 – Apr. 6, hosted by the Bible Study Sunday school class. The class will meet in Fellowship Hall. Other individuals or Sunday school classes are invited to join the Bible Study class in this journey through scripture!